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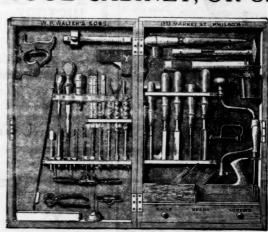
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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1882.

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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

ONE of the best proposals in the President's Message was that the law of certain States as to the veto or approval of appropriations, should be adopted into the statutes of the United States. The Governor of New York or Pennsylvania can take the appropriation bills to pieces at his leisure, after the Legislature has adjourned. He can approve such portions as he pleases, and veto the rest. It was Mr. Cornell's admirable use of this right, in the former State, which made him the choice of the majority of the Republican voters for a reëlection to the Governorship. He showed that, whatever his faults and whatever his previous record, he meant to secure an honest administration of the State's finances.

There are two difficulties in the way of making this provision a part of our national law. The first is the unwillingness of Congress to part with any portion of its power. It is an ancient Anglo-Saxon tradition that the Executive must take an appropriation as a whole, or reject it as a whole. In the days when the hold of Parliament on the national purse-strings was the only means to secure a redress of grievances, the principle of the integrity of such bills was of prime importance. Out of that condition of things grows a tradition which has become unmeaning under an elective Executive. But it gives the legislative branch of the government a hold on the Executive which it will not surrender readily. In New York, it was the amendment of the Constitution by the popular vote which made the change, and the same was the case in Pennsylvania.

The second difficulty is presented by the United States Constitution. It enacts with much distinctness the manner of approving and of vetoing bills, and always speaks of a bill as an indivisible unit. It is doubtful whether we could make the change proposed without amending the Constitution. But the motion to make it has been introduced and referred in the House.

MR. ARTHUR's political friends in his own State seem to interpret his recent Message in a different sense from that put upon it by the more hopeful part of the public. They are flocking to Washington to urge upon him the propriety of making wholesale removals by way of punishing his political enemies and rewarding his friends. His display of figures as to the paucity of removals during his term of office seems to have roused in them a desire to bring him up to the average. They evidently are grieved that a man of his principles and his record should have done so little for those who have stood by him.

It may be that the President will disappoint them. We wish he may. But it is to be remembered that gentlemen such as Mr. CLINTON WHEELER possess a familiarity with his character and views, which is not shared by the public at large.

On Thursday week (December 7th), the second trial of the group of Star Route conspirators, headed by Mr. Brady and the two Messrs. Dorsey, was begun in Washington. At the very opening, the defence resumed that policy of resistance and delay, which of itself is enough to show that they have no confidence in their case. It was moved at once that the disease of Mr. S. W. Dorsey's eyes was a sufficient reason for postponement, as he should not be tried for a misdemeanor in absenti, and could not come into court without injury to his sight and his general health. This Judge Wylle overruled, and proceeded with the business of getting a jury. This would be a very easy matter in almost every other city. But Washington is a city in which politics is almost the only employment; and a case like this agitates every stratum of society. There is no commercial or manufacturing class upon which to draw for an impartial jury. Every person either has an office or wants office, or lives by those who have and want. Hence the great importance of the

recent dismissals, as a notification to this honey-combed public that, however strong and wealthy the Brady and Dorsey ring may be, they are opposed by a power stronger than they, which means to bring them to justice. To keep off the jury men like the worthy Mr. Dickson, is a task of difficulty, but it is rendered much less difficult by the substitution of Mr. Clayton Macmichael for Mr. Henry as marshal of the District. We confess to some surprise that the Senate committee to whom Mr. Macmichael's nomination was referred, should ask Mr. Arthur for his reasons for this change. These reasons have been before the country for weeks past, in official documents addressed to the President by the Department of Justice. They amount to this, that the Department is satisfied that Mr. Henry's unconcealed sympathies with the Brady-Dorsey ring stand seriously in the way of a fair trial of these offenders. And the committee would take on its shoulders a very serious responsibility, if it were to put any obstacle in the way of this change.

It is noticeable that Mr. Ex-Senator Spencer still keeps himself well out of reach of the Government, which wants him as a witness. It is true that he telegraphs to Washington a statement that Mr. Bliss bade him run away before, and that he is to be found at his native place in northern New York. But the minute he finds a United States marshal coming to express to him Mr. Bliss's desire to see him in Washington, he finds it best to slip across the line to Canada. If Mr. Brady and Mr. Dorsey are injured innocents, why does their particular friend show himself so particular to keep out of the way? Or is the Department of Justice bribing him to do it?

THE Ways and Means Committee have addressed themselves in good earnest to the Report of the Tariff Commission, and there seems every reason to expect a speedy and unanimous report in accordance with its suggestions. The rumor that Mr. Kelley was going to fall foul of it, through some alleged jealousy of Mr. HAYES, met with no credence from his friends, and is disproved by the facts. The Free Traders try to cover their retreat from their attitude towards the Commission, by alleging that the Report owes its character to the results of the November elections. Up to that time, the Commission are supposed to have been unregenerate Protectionists; political calamity has caused them to do works meet for repentance. The misfortune of this muchneeded explanation is that it is utterly untrue. The Report is exactly what was indicated by the unofficial statements of the Commission before the elections were held. The Chattanooga Times, a Democratic paper, says: "We wrote, nearly three months ago, predicting that the Report would be substantially what it is, and our guess was based entirely on conversations we had with three members of the Commission when they were in Chattanooga." Nor can any one tell what there was in the elections to change the Commission in the direction of lower duties. Was it that Mr. FRANK HURD ran 2,000 behind his ticket in the Toledo District? Or was it that Minnesota left Mr. DUNNELL at home? Or that pressing the Protection issue secured one West Virginia, one Florida and one Louisiana District to the Republicans? Or that the Democrats of Ohio and Indiana put Protective planks into the platforms on which they won? As the Times says, "Over one-half of the radical Free Traders in the present Congress were not reëlected."

It is just a little remarkable that so many of our Free Trade friends should become anxious at this moment lest the reduction of the revenue should be made too sweepingly by this Congress, and a deficit should take the place of a surplus. Their course in the recent Tariff discussion has not been so lofty and unimpeachable as to make it impossible to suspect that some party advantage is the real object of all this anxiety. Three months ago, they were denouncing vengeance upon all and

sundry who should refuse to "relieve the people of the burden of war taxes." Now they insist that too much caution cannot be used, as this and that expense may drain the treasury of its resources and cause a serious embarrassment. In the last five years the national revenue has risen from 258 to 404 millions, without any corresponding increase in expense. The surplus for the year ending next June will equal the whole amount of the income from the internal revenue taxes, and nobody now insists upon a simple and complete abolition of these taxes at one stroke. The income from spirits, tobacco and beer is about 135 millions, and its reduction at the same rate as the proposed reduction of the Tariff, with the abolition of all the other taxes, would leave still a surplus larger than is required by law for the sinking-fund.

We should like to have some guarantee that our friends will be equally zealous in resisting reductions next year, when they think they will have a Congress more inclined than the present to reduce customs duties. And we also should like to have them reconcile their present assumption that we must go on spending the nation's money lavishly for this and that purpose, with their former urgency to have the revenue reduced in order to put a stop to such extravagance.

MR. Senator Beck, of Kentucky, opened the session of the Senate with a proposal to investigate Mr. Jay Hubbell's assessment of the members of the National Civil Service for the benefit of the Republican party. The resolution may have been meant, as it is alleged, to cause an irritating debate and to waste the time of this short session. But, if so, there was the more reason for passing it promptly and without a division. The treatment of our civil servants by a political committee of Congress is a legitimate subject for a public investigation, and Mr. Beck's resolution has the support of as many Republicans as could be got to oppose it. The same cannot be said for the amendments offered by Mr. Hale. of Maine, extending the inquiry to supposed Democratic receipts from the liquor dealers, the railway kings and the Cobden Club. These contributions do not fall within the scope of Government oversight and should not be matters for a Congressional investigation.

The National Republican Committee meets soon; and it would not be out of place for it to express the sense of the party generally against the continuance of the Congressional Committee. No such Committee of Congressmen can be made up to conduct a campaign without involving unfairness to candidates of their own party who are not in Congress. And recent experience shows that the Republican party can get on much better without than with such a committee.

THE Senate gave the country a surprise by substituting Judge Low-ELL'S Bankruptcy Bill for that that prepared by its own committee, even though they referred back that bill to the committee. We take it that this is a concession to the general feeling of the business community, which demands the passage of the LOWELL Bill, as the only one which really establishes a system of procedure in bankraptcy, the other bill merely leaving the establishment of a system to each of the circuit judges for his own district. There may be some objections in detail to the LOWELL Bill, which justify the complaint from the West that it favors the creditors at the expense of the debtors. If so, the committee will do well to remove them with a sparing hand, and perhaps after conference with Mr. Lowell, who has given much time and attention to the subject. But we should cease to hear this talk from the West, as though that were a country of insolvent debtors. During the last ten years, the West has begun, and has nearly achieved, a change in its business position and relations, as is shown by the capacity of Western business centres to retain the gold they draw from New York. The West has exactly the same interest as the East in this matter.

The substitution of the Lowell Bill gives us additional pleasure, as a victory for Mr. Hoar, which will improve his prospects of reëlection to the Senate.

MR. PAGE, of California, and Mr. ROBESON, of New Jersey, both think they have had hard measure in the matter of the River and Harbor bill. And the House, to please them, has made a kind of reference of the matter to the arbitration of Mr. Secretary Lincoln. He, with the help of his engineering staff, is to sort out the good from the bad items in the twenty million bill, if bad there be, and to say

which of them spent the public money for purposes for which the national Government should not make provision. We have no doubt that Mr. Lincoln would be a fair arbitrator according to his light. But he has to rely upon a body of advisers who are rather prejudiced in favor of such outlays.

Mr. PAGE thinks that New York city is quite ready to see money spent on her own harbor, but apt to object to similar outlays on other harbors. There is some truth in the charge. But it was not the New York newspapers who created the public feeling against the bill. They did their share, but they could have had no such effect upon public opinion as was actually produced. That was due to the general and indignant outcry against the measure from newspapers of all parties and nearly every corner of the land,—an outcry which Mr. PAGE and Mr. ROBESON thought they would ignore.

CONGRESS is likely to have more than enough of bills for the reform of the Civil Service. The Senate has the bill by Mr. EATON, called the PENDLETON bill, and that of Mr. Dawes. The House has one by Mr. Kasson, and one by Mr. Strait, of Minnesota, and is likely to have several others. None of these seems to us to solve the problem in any satisfactory way. They all fix a brief term for service, six years at the outside, and allow the official to drop out at the end, unless he is reappointed. At best, a reform with this defect can but prepare for a more thorough reform ten years hence. But of all the measures proposed thus far, we prefer what is called the PENDLETON Bill. Its passage would prevent the reformers from saying that their plan was not tried fairly. It has been drawn up by a gentleman who has given serious thought to the matter, and who knows what he would be at. It does not propose to establish the farce of pass examinations as a qualification for office. And it proposes a gradual introduction of its method, applying it first to the Washington Departments, and then to the great custom houses and post offices, and finally to the lesser establishments, as fast and far as the Executive pleases. By all means, if we must have this half-way kind of reform, give us the genuine, unadulterated EATON

Mr. Senator Brown, of Georgia, probably expresses the views of many Democrats, when he says that the reform he wants to see is a sweeping change from Republicans to Democrats. He and his friends hardly will relish a permanence of tenure, even for six years, since they have some hope of carrying the country in 1884. Mr. Brown should not count unhatched chickens. As Mr. CLEVELAND, the Governor-elect of New York, remarked of his own State, the recent Democratic victories are not due to any new love for the Democratic party. They were no more than the chastisement inflicted by Republican voters upon leaders who would not march fast enough in the line of Reform. And those voters are perfectly aware that the Democrats, with a few exceptions, will not march at all in the lines wanted. Your genuine Democrat, like Mr. Brown, believes, first of all, in a reform that will turn out the Republicans. At the same time, it must be remembered that Southern Democrats have more of a grievance in this matter than the rest of the party. The Republican party of the South exists mainly to fill the offices, and does not fill them in a very reputable manner.

MR. Secretary Teller thinks that the Indian tribes do not desire the conversion of their land tenure from common to several, and that this is a valid argument against the change. Some of the friends of Indian civilization dispute the statement, and argue for the change as a thing desired by several of the tribes at least. We think the discussion a very useless one, much indeed like the old dispute as to whether the negro was contented to be a bondsman. Communism, even when confined to the tenure of land in common, is no better than a kind of slavery; and whenever a single Indian desires to be released from it, it is the duty of the Government to assign him his share in severalty. Nemo in communione invitus detineri potest, runs the great maxim of the civil law, which emancipated all Western Europe, and, by consequence, all white Americans, from this old bondage. It is because Russia failed to apply it in the emancipation of her serfs, and required a two-thirds' majority to dissolve any village community, that her people are worse off than they were in serfdom, and that idleness, thriftlessness and drunkenness have grown apace throughout the Empire. The Nemo of the

civil law is as important as the *Nullus liber homo* of Magna Charta, on which Lord Chatham dwells. Its application to our Indian tribes will be the destruction of a system which represses individuality, discourages thrift, shackles opinion, and gives the tribes, bound hand and foot, into the power of the chiefs and the medicine-men.

THE Supreme Court has given what we may presume to be the final decision in the dispute as to the possession of General LEE's estate at Arlington. During the war the estate was sold to the United States at auction for taxes, under the authority of the loyal government of Virginia, at whose head Mr. JOHN MINOR BOTTS stood as Governor. The sum for which it was knocked down was twenty-six thousand dollars, which the national Government never paid, although it used the estate to settle fugitive negroes coming in from the Consederate lines. But now the courts of Virginia, representing a government which may be regarded as the successor of that organized around Mr. Botts, declare that the sale was in contravention of the statutes of the State. Had the Government remained in actual possession of the property, this decision would not have availed General LEE's heirs, for it is an attribute of sovereignty not to be liable to suit. But as the lands had been transferred by lease or grant to other parties, the heirs claimed their right, and the court has decided in their favor.

We do not know whether a similar course has been pursued with the estate taken, still more informally, for the use of the contrabands, at Beaufort, S. C. In that instance, the hardship was still greater, as much if not all of the land siezed belonged to two orphan children, who certainly were not in rebellion against the United States.

THERE is no little curiosity—and perhaps as much anxiety—to see whether the Governor-elect of Pennsylvania is about to blunder. It is certainly generally esteemed that it will be a blunder if he appoint Mr. Cassidy, of Philadelphia, his Attorney-General. For Mr. Cassidy is no Reformer. He not only has not helped clean any Augean stables, in any direction, but he is regarded as having tried to trip Hercules, or hang on to his coat-tail, or otherwise interfere, whenever the cleansing was undertaken. It is certain that Mr. Pattison's partisan opponents thought it one of their most effective weapons against him, during the canvass, to declare that he would put Mr. Cassidy to the front—that he was "Mr. Cassidy's man"-and if their prediction should be verified, nobody will rejoice more, not even the nearest friend of the gentleman put forward. Nor can it be uncertain that there is a profound uneasiness among Democrats over the matter; there are abundant indications that many of them are of the opinion that such an appointment would start Governor Pattison wrong, and put him in a position where he would be obliged to defend his administration rather than march it steadily forward.

It is, of course, apparent that Mr. PATTISON'S success, so far, has been won on entirely new lines. He owes his election, partly, to that circumstance which distinguishes him particularly from all others who competed with him for the nomination-the fact that his "record" lies entirely in the period since the war. It is a curious fact that, not until time had so far passed that they could produce a leader whose public life cleared the war time, did the Democrats elect a Governor of Pennsylvania. But, apart from this, Mr. PATTISON won his success because he had shown himself a clean-handed, straightforward officer—one who exemplified the simple code of good government. Compared with him, in this respect, there was hardly another prominent Democrat in Pennsylvania who could make any sort of showing, and he therefore stands before the people as the representative of whatever tendency toward, and capacity for, reform the Democratic party is capable of presenting. To select Mr. Cassidy for the most prominent and important place in his bestowal will therefore be interpreted, on all hands, as a departure from the ground he has been holding. Mr. Cassidy's capacity for the Attorney-Generalship may be very great-though the evidence of this is not at all apparent—but as there are doubtless others of equal capacity available to Mr. PATTISON, who are much less subject to the political objections that are urged in Mr. C.'s case, it is not surprising that there should be an uneasy stir in Democratic circles over the expectation that he is to be selected.

MR. GIFFEN, of The Statist, the mentor of English Chancellors of the Exchecquer, thinks that the United States is a privileged country so long as it escapes from the perils and embarrassments of densely settled countries, but that sooner or later there will be so many people on this continent, that they will be quarrelling for room and subsistence, as in Europe. In a word, Mr. Giffen, like the educated people of Europe generally, is a Malthusian, and believes that sooner or later population must outrun subsistence. In America, Malthusian doctrines have few adherents, even among the political economists, partly for the bad reason that the evil day seems so far off for us, and partly for the better reason that we do not believe in its coming. Mankind have been on this globe for something like 125,000 years, according to the geologists. Mr. Malthus says population tends to double every 25 years. The sum of a geometrical progression in which the first term is two, the ratio of increase two, and the number of terms is 5,000, represents the possible Malthusian population of the globe. Its actual population is put at 1,433,887,500 by the best authorities. Do Mr. Malthus's "positive and negative checks" account for the difference?

But the whole theory proceeds upon a series of baseless assumptions which Mr. Grey and Mr. Herbert Spencer, as well as Mr. Carey, have shown to be untrue. The pressure of population on subsistence belongs to the earlier, not the later, stages of social growth. It was felt in America by the scanty tribes of Indians, who were dotted over a territory which now feeds nearly as many millions as it then fed thousands. It was felt by the first colonies, as they fought for a bare subsistence on lands now occupied by a dense and prosperous population. With the growth of numbers and of the power of association, it has diminished to almost the vanishing point, and we have found, by actual experience, that Malthusianism is a British nightmare, and "overpopulation" a cry to excuse misgovernment.

MR. MULHALL is a statist nearly equal in authority to Mr. GIFFEN; but we think he errs as far in his estimate of our present wealth, as does Mr. GIFFEN in his estimate of our future dangers. He thinks that in 1870 the United Kingdom was richer than the United States, but that we have advanced thirty-five per cent. in the decade, and are now the richest country in the world, though still considerably behind England in the proportion of wealth to the population. Here are his figures in millions of dollars for 1880:

							United	Kingdom.	United States.
Houses,								\$10,600	\$13,400
Furniture,								2,400	2,600
Manufactur	es,							2,908	5,200
Railways,							٠	3,500	5,200
Shipping,								600	300
Bullion,							٠	700	700
Lands,					•			9,400	9,600
Cattle,	0				٠			1,220	1,800
Crops,				0				720	2,000
Foreign inv	restn	nents,			٠			6,300	500
Sundries,								600	700
Roads, pub	lic. la	ands, e	tc.,		٠	٠		1,770	7,770
Total,								\$40,640	\$49,770

As the population stood 34,884,740 to 50,442,066, the average share of each individual was \$1,165 in the United Kingdom and \$986 in America. But who supposes that we have five hundred millions of dollars invested abroad, or that more than one or two of these estimates are better than mere guesses?

The victory of the Liberal candidate in the Liverpool election is certainly extraordinary. For thirty-five years past the Liberals were in a minority in that city, and, on the eve of the election, The Spectator was calculating the chances of the party educating this and some other large city constituencies into an acquaintance with Liberal principles. Some papers try to belittle the event by references to secondary causes, but the Times makes the unwilling concession that it is a notable ministerial victory. It is indeed one proof, out of many, that Mr. Gladstone's Government is as strong as ever in its hold on the English boroughs, and would have nothing to fear from an immediate dissolution.

Close upon the victory comes the announcement that Lord DERBY is to enter the Cabinet. He is in some sense a Liverpool man, but his

a great local influence. Mr. GLADSTONE, too, makes a change; he signalizes the completion of his fifty years of public life by resigning his extra place, the Chancellorship of the Exchequer, while retaining his premiership in the Cabinet, as the head of the Treasury Board.

France interrupts her fruitless scolding of England, anent Egypt and Madagascar, to give Louis Blanc a great public funeral. M. Blanc was a man whom posterity will appreciate better than did his contemporaries. It has been his misfortune to have had his name associated with a crude socialistic experiment of which he never heartily approved, and whose failure was thought to discredit his practical ability. We mean the "national workshops" of 1848. But when the story is told more calmly, it will be seen that M. BLANC desired something very different, less erratic and much more practical, and that LEDRU ROLLIN was the real author of that wild essay in social reorganization. Posterity also will do justice to the almost German industry of M. Blanc in the researches on which his "History of the French Revolution" is based, and will not think the worse of him for having suggested that there are limits to the moral beauty of individualism, and bounds to the beneficence of industrial competition.

M. VICTOR HUGO, in his funeral oration, reverted to a topic which always has lain very near his own heart. We mean the doctrine of immortality as a social force, reconciling the misunderstood and the unhappy with existence here, through the hope of a state of less friction in the great Beyond.

THE Pope, it is said, has promised M. GIERS to use his influence to allay discontent in Poland, in consideration of certain concessions from Russia as regards the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Poland. If the news be true, it will produce a very unpleasant impression. The enemies of the Roman See say that it never has been the sincere friend of national aspirations, but always has been ready to sacrifice the interests of oppressed Catholic peoples for any advantages given by the despots to the priesthood. They point to the part played, under influences from Rome, by the majority of the Irish hierarchy as the allies of the Dublin Castle. And they recall the way in which GREGORY XVI. suppressed the wave of sympathy with Poland, which, fifty years ago, thrilled Catholic Europe. It will be said that Rome learns nothing, and, however infallible in faith and morals, is nearly always on the side of the powers of darkness in politics.

[See News Summary, page 158.]

THE REPORT OF THE TARIFF COMMISSION.

WE think it not unseasonable to review the course of events which preceded the creation of the Commission and led to its labors. On the approach of the election of 1880, the Protectionists generally began to be aware that this question was about to take a very prominent part in our political controversies. They had confidence in the attachment of the American people to the policy inaugurated in 1789, and resumed again and again under the hard teachings of experience. They felt sure that the Tariff of 1860 had shown, by the grand display of its results in 1876, that the country had done well to resolve on the naturalization of every great manufacture on its own soil, and that nothing could overcome the patriotic feeling of interest then inspired in our citizens generally. The result of the campaign of 1880 justified their confidence. That campaign was opened by pressing the war issues,-"the bloody shirt" and "the solid South." Even Mr. GARFIELD, and even after the loss of Maine, was reluctant to attempt any change of front. After much persuasion, he was satisfied that the "Tariff for Revenue only" was the most fatal of recent Democratic mistakes, and that Mr. HENRY WATTERSON had surrendered his party to its enemies by putting that plank into the Cincinnati platform. During the latter half of the campaign of 1880, this question was pressed upon the average voter. It won over Indiana, and it carried New York, and elected the Republican ticket by a majority which left no room for Electoral Commissions or Mr. WATTERSON'S "sixty thousand Kentuckians."

But the Protectionists distinctly refused to fight that battle on the merits of the existing Tariff simply. Through their organs of public expression and of official utterance, they declared for a just, sensible and moderate revision of the Tariff, such as would remove anomalies, equal- | sense protective, and as they contribute a marked exception to the rule

ize duties, prune off excesses, and put the whole question on its simple merits before the people. And from the first, they resisted the proposal to effect such a revision through a congressional committee or commission, demanding that it be placed in the hands of persons expert in such work, and not embarrassed by the motives which embarrass Congressmen whenever they think of their constituents. But at no time did they propose a Commission composed exclusively of gentlemen who believed in the Protective policy, because they believed that a mixed commission would carry greater weight with the country, even though a minority might have to record their dissent from some of the recommenda-

When Senator Earon brought in his Tariff Commission Bill, in 1880, he did so with the complete acquiescence of the Protectionists of the country generally. From the first, they gave the measure every kind of support, and urged its immediate passage. From the first, they were met with every kind of opposition from the Free Traders inside and outside Congress. Every Free Trade newspaper denounced the proposal as insincere, and as a measure for delay merely, without a particle of evidence that anything was meant but what lay on the surface of the proposal, and in the face of the fact that no more delay would be secured by the passage of the bill than would be effected by simple inaction on the part of the Protectionists. A grosser case of the gratuitous imputation of bad motives is not to be found in our recent political history.

In the last session of the second Congress of the Hayes Administration, the only feasible proposal for the revision of the Tariff was defeated by the resistance of the Free Traders. It is not a Protectionist, but a Free Trader, the New York correspondent of a London newspaper, who says they resisted the proposal because the removal of the anomalies of our Tariff legislation would rob them of their stock in trade. In the first session of the First Congress under the GARFIELD-ARTHUR Administration, when the report of the Commission would have been up for discussion had the Protectionists had their way, Mr. EATON'S proposal was renewed and carried by the Protectionist majority, in the face of every kind of resistance from the Free Traders in and out of Congress. It was again denounced as a measure for delay only, a measure to prevent rather than accomplish a Tariff revision; and Congress was held derelict of its duty in transferring this most important topic from its own shoulders to those of a Commission of experts. Side by side in the same newspapers stood impassioned endorsements of Mr. Adams's excellent plan for a National Commission to spend years in the study of the railroad problem, and equally impassioned denunciations of the proposal that a National Commission should take twelve months for the study of the far more difficult problem of the relation of the Tariff to our industries. And when the Commission was appointed at last, it was pursued with simple hatred and abuse from city to city; all who appeared before it to show the necessity of a Protective Tariff to the interests they represented were abused as little better than thieves; and the complete worthlessness of its report was predicted before a line of it was written.

The motive for all this is not recondite. The one chance of the Free Traders is to deal with the question of the Tariff in detail. Divide et impera is their maxim. They know that they have no chance against the united representatives of American industries. If they could take each in turn, as they took quinine, they would be content to spend twenty years in effecting a revision after their own fashion, while they think a single year all too great a delay in treating the subject as a whole. In fine, their whole plan of the campaign met its final defeat when this Commission was appointed, and they had to abandon the idea of snapping fresh reduction bills on Congress at the close of the session. In losing one point, they lost all.

And now, at last, they are forced to confess that the Report unanimously submitted by the Commission is in the main quite a satisfactory performance. It is a revision just such as we foretold in defending the plan of a Commission. It aims at the removal of everything that is not demanded by the Protective principle, and at presenting the issue in its simplest form before the people. We do not give our approval to each and all of its provisions. We think that the entire removal of the sugar duties from our Tariff would be a gain, as these duties are in no that no American is compelled to contribute to the receipts of the Custom House. We also see no occasion for the reduction of the duty on books, for the continuance of quinine on the free list, and for the admission to that list of the cheap imitation of quinine which the less scrupulous druggists sell to their customers for quinine itself. There are other blotches, but we have reason to believe that the proposals of the Commission are satisfactory to all the great industries of the country. If the report be open to exceptions from those of less magnitude, they will have their hearing and a due consideration.

Again, the Report proposes to wipe out the system of duplicate duties which has been the most objectionable feature of the Tariff. It proposes to put the import under an ad valorem or a specific duty, generally preferring the latter; but not piling a specific on the top of an ad valorem duty. It proposes to reduce all the Custom House charges to a single, simple payment, about which the merchant can make no mistake. These things are important, because the intricacy of method in our Tariff legislation has done as much to make it unpopular as the weight of the duties. It has been a system of traps for the feet of the unwary, into which the most upright merchant might stumble.

What would be the effect of this revision on the revenue of the country? Supposing that our imports should continue at the same rate as at present, the diminution in Custom House receipts probably would amount to over forty-four million dollars. This is the estimate of The Advertiser. But if lower duties should stimulate to greater importations, there might be little or no reduction of revenue. We hardly think that it will, for we are at present receiving from Europe not only all that we really ask of her, but also all that her producers see any hope of selling. The bulk of our so-called importations are merely consignments from foreign manufacturers to their American correspondents, with instructions to sell for what they will bring. Their purpose, in a great number of cases, is to relieve the European market of superfluous and undesirable stock. Anybody who has watched the book business in New York knows what large consignments of this kind are dumped into the American market, as soon as they are found to be unsalable at home. And what is more visible to the book-buyer goes on in many other lines of trade. Now this sort of "importations" hardly can be increased by lower duties, although they may be made slightly more profitable than they are. But, after all, the only sure way to reduce the revenue from customs is to enlarge the free list, as by transferring sugar to it.

The effect upon our manufactures is, to our thinking, much more important than on our revenue. We are confident that for the most part they have attained a position which enables them to meet a larger amount of foreign competition with safety. They have attained their majority, and can stand by their own vigor. They still are entitled to the maintenance of such duties as will equalize their advantages with those of European competitors. But the amount needed is much less than twenty years ago. Thanks to the Tariff, we are not where we were in 1860. We have developed and imported a large amount of skilled labor. We have accumulated capital, if not so profusely as in England, yet so as to enable us to encounter her with her own weapons of war. Money is cheaper by far for permanent investment than it ever was in America. We have forced our products into the lines of home trade, from which they were excluded by the jealousy of the foreigners who controlled those lines even in America. We have cheapened, by improvement and invention, many of the most important staples. And we have a buoyant confidence in our industrial future, the result of past successes, which is itself a protection.

We believe our manufacturers will stand any probable reduction of duties, and that without any general reduction of wages. Should this hope be disappointed, a Tariff revision in the other direction will be in order once more, as in 1824, 1840 and 1860.

IS THE REPUBLICAN PARTY UNDER CHEOPS?

DOES the Republican party still exist? So experienced and confident a writer upon American politics as the editor of Our Continent declares that it does not. "The late Republican party," he says, "is as dead to-day as if Cheops had been builded over its ashes."

We venture the opinion that this is very probably a mistake. Cheops is a large pyramid. All who have seen it agree that it must

have required immense labor and a long period of time for its erection. Any ashes that may be under its foundations must necessarily refer to quite a remote age, and represent the exhausted vitalities of an extremely ancient organism. It seems most likely, therefore, that the ashes under Cheops—if there be any ashes there—do not include those of the Republican party. The editor of *Our Continent* has doubtless dropped into hyperbole, in this particular instance.

It is curious to observe, however, by what route the editor leads himself to believe that the death of the Republican party is so absolute and finished a fact. He does not conclude thus because he has seen any ashes, or even a cremation. The Republican party is dead, he declares, because hereafter the "workers" in it will be animated only by purposes of revenge against each other. They are filled full of bloody plans of mutual reprisal. They mean to devote their lives to "getting even." They are, he says, "men of power and consequently men of passion. Wounded unto death, they will nourish their remaining strength to revenge themselves upon those who have stricken them." And so forth, to the same effect.

From what example of the vendetta, in Sicily, or possibly North Carolina, such anticipations are drawn, it would be presumptuous to say, but certainly not from experience of past American politics, or from a reasonable forecast of the future of American parties. The picture is much overdrawn. There is no such heat within the Republican organization. The fires of discord are not so furious as to reduce it to ashes, for deposit under Cheops or elsewhere. The vengeful fury of the political "worker" cannot last beyond the opening of a new campaign. The elections of one year may sicken him, but he reflects soon that health and strength will be needed for those of the coming year, and he has no time, as they approach, to dwell upon his hatreds. Purposes of revenge furnish him a feverish and exhausting diet-hopes of party and personal success are much more sustaining, if not really more nutritious. If the party is to survive until its "workers" lay themselves upon a funeral pyre, and apply the match under their own bodies, it will have a long lease of life. and may be still green with youth when Cheops actually begins to moulder.

And if the "worker" prefers life rather than felo de se-the chances of another fight with "the common enemy," rather than the certainty of oblivion and the enemy's shouts of exultation over his grave—it is perfectly true that the mass of citizens are profoundly free from any inclination to feed themselves from November to November on schemes of political revenge. They have a great abundance of other affairs to conduct. The immediate concerns of life press upon them. Their political convictions and purposes are those of to-day, applicable to the day's questions. They apply themselves to the problem as it stands, and undertake its solution under the conditions which it now presents. What Judge Tourgée may remember of disappointments and chagrins in years that are past has very little to do with the purposes, the hopes, and the efforts of a new contest, under new circumstances. As parties cannot long endure upon their "records," nor command a majority continuously hereafter because they at some time in the past deserved it, so they do not permanently embody the hostilities and acrimonies of the campaigns through which they pass. These spring up anew, and the old ones are lost sight of. If all the bitter things which public men say of each other-even those in the same party-had perpetual vitality, and should rise up at each turn to distract and destroy, there would be no parties at all. Hostility could not be more intense, apparently, than that which these personal animosities might be taken to signify; if one should see printed, in the cold and distinct symbols of the types, what Senator A. said of his rival, Governor B., on a certain occasion-or should even hear repeated the blistering indictment which Governor Q. brought against Senator X., -one could not but feel that they would rend the party in the fury of their antagonisms, and would pile Cheops and every other pyramid over the fragments. But, as a matter of fact, they do no such thing; they shake hands, they bury their differences, they jump upon a bench in order to catch the chairman's eye, and get in their motion to "make it unanimous."

And this is perfectly natural. Supposing that there is "a free ballot and a fair count," a party must expect to succeed by obtaining a majority of votes. It is the strength of numbers that wins. Approaching

the polls, therefore, the captains do not rush through their own ranks, slaughtering their own men. Each one who lives will count. Intending to win, if possible, the remembrance of this fact not only forbids any such internal quarrel as would cause the loss of life, but it occasions the greatest care to help all forward. The aged are aided, the lame assisted, the suffering put into carriages,—he must be a very sick man whom the political "worker" does not think fit to "come out" on election day.

We, therefore, are quite sure that to speak of "the late" Republican party, and to insist that it could not be more completely dead if its ashes were under the Egyptian pyramid, is a mere illustration—and a very good one—of rhetorical hyperbole, unless it be founded upon some better reason than the presumption that the result of the 1882 elections will be to make Republicans devote themselves hereafter entirely to their "revenges." As a matter of fact, the effect seems to be precisely contrary. The President sees farther than he did. Congress is devoting itself to new and good works. There is nobody, apparently, whose horizon is not greatly expanded, and whose views of public policy are not more liberal, more progressive and more catholic. Even "Civil Service Reform" is not objurgated as it was; on the contrary, it begins to be fondled where once it was kicked. Gentleness takes the place of ferocity; men who swore like our army in Flanders formerly now roar as gently as a sucking-dove, and counsel harmony instead of proscription.

Whether the Republican party is to win again in a national campaign is not yet certain, but it is perfectly certain that it will again contest the field with the hope and the opportunity of success—unless, as we do not now deem possible, it misuses its present chance of initiating substantial reforms in Congress, or commits other gross blunders. It is in the situation to put itself forward, once more, as the nation's safest guardian and administrator, and the probability is that it will do this. To imagine that it will not take the field in 1884, after its reverses of 1882, as it did in 1876, after those of 1874, is to very much misapprehend the material of which it is chiefly composed. There is not a little of the fabled strength of Antæus in its case, and it may be most feared when it has most recently risen from a fall.

WEEKLY NOTES.

ROM 1875 to 1880 the increase of the population of Germany was computed at about 525,000 per annum, and at that rate the German population would double within the next fifty years, from the 45,250,000 of the census of December 1st, 1880, while it will reach 60 millions in 1900 and 80 millions in 1925. France, during five years preceding its last census, increased only 389,000, caused largely by foreign influx, while Germany, during the same period, increased over two millions. At the same rate, it would take France 433 years to double. The birth rate in Germany is 3.91 per hundred; in France it is only 2.47, while in 1881 the net excess of births in Germany over deaths amounted to 522,970. The constant increase of population in Germany, with its increase of labor supply, and its poor and densely populated districts, reduced wages and profits, and so closely are the two related, that in Silesia the failure of the potato and cabbage crop brings its hundred thousand people to the verge of starvation. All this compels emigration, but that in turn entails a vast pecuniary loss on Ger-Dr. FRIEDRICH KAPP, long a resident of this country, and a noted writer on emigration, estimates the capital in money and valuables taken away from Germany by each emigrant at not less than \$108, and during 1881 there landed in the United States 248,323 German emigrants, causing a transfer from Germany to this country of over 25 millions in money and property. It is estimated that Germany has lost, during the last sixty years, and mainly during the last thirty, in emigration, nearly twice the amount of the enormous ransom paid by France to Germany as war indemnity in 1871. It is not surprising, therefore, that BISMARCK should look unkindly on the United States and try to find some spot for German colonies under the German flag.

In Austria, new Tariff and Revenue laws are prepared and introduced by the Secretary of the Treasury. This year such a law revising the old Tariff was passed,—and it is interesting to see what was done to get the right kind of a law. Circulars were sent to chambers of commerce, industrial societies and manufacturers, inquiring as to the quantity of material consumed, the amount manufactured, the sales at home and abroad, wages, freights, prices of raw material and of manufactured articles, etc. All information was kept confidential, but chambers of commerce were invited to discuss every topic that could throw light on the subject. Finally, a law was draughted with a classified tariff list, embracing 355 separate categories, comprising 50 tariff classes, and with it there was submitted a report giving the history of tariff legislation,

statistics of imports and exports, and every sort of information required for careful legislation, together with a tabular statement of the amount of duties collected under existing tariff rates, and estimates of the results of the proposed law. All this aimed at securing the largest revenue, which is an urgent necessity in Austria, and protecting home industries for the benefit of both manufacturers and consumers. The home market is carefully protected for domestic production, while raw material for industrial purposes may be admitted free, and articles of food and prime necessity at such rates as will fall most lightly on the consumer. Austria is following the lead of Germany in thus laboring to develop its industrial resources by careful tariff legislation, and naturally English Free Traders are very angry at thus losing the large markets their manufacturers have hitherto found on the Continent, and attribute this new departure to the evil example set by the United States with its growing industries.

Commenting upon the Census returns of illiteracy, the Little Rock Gazette looks askance at the showing for the State of Arkansas, where it appears that 98,542 whites, over ten years old, and 103,473 colored, of the same age, cannot write. It remarks, however, that as there could have been very few colored persons in the State twenty years ago who could write at all, the fact that they now show 25 per cent. of their number who can do so, proves that they have been making progress, and adds that: "Proportionately speaking, the whites have by no means done so well; and unless a change occurs, they may, within another score of years, be outstripped in the ordinary and essential branches of education by their colored brethren."

A NEW social organization has been formed by the "newspaper men" of Philadelphia, called "The Journalists' Club," under the presidency of Mr. Keenan, one of the editors of The Press. This is a revival of a long entertained idea; there was quite a flourishing organization, "The Press Club of Philadelphia," a few years ago, which gave, with great spirit and fair success, annual dinners, from about 1865 to 1870. The new club, however, means to be more enterprising than any of its predecessors, and to provide itself not merely with rooms, but a whole house, and live in fine style. Naturally, it should succeed; there is a genial disposition to good comradeship amongst journalists, though, in some instances, it is covered with the rust of envy or kept in check by competitive hostility. In Philadelphia, there has been, since the new and more spirited journalism of the last few years sprang up, a growth in friendly feeling among the working members of the profession, and a decline of the old-fashioned insularity and narrow-mindedness, all of which goes to the aid of the new venture.

ANTHONY TROLLOPE.

M. TROLLOPE was a writer of the past generation, a contemporary of Dickens and Thackeray, whom he outlived, the one by ten and the other by twenty years. His novels, indeed, were of a type even more antiquated than Mr. Howells, a practitioner of a newer school, has declared theirs to be. We cannot compare his works to the comic melodramas of Dickens, nor to the discursive and satirical fiction of Thackeray. When we think of writers with whom to compare him, we have to go back of these and back of the romantic novel of Scott, in which these had their origin, though they were also in part the evidence of a reaction from it. It was the English novel of manners, which Richardson founded, and which Fanny Burney and Maria Edgeworth and Jane Austen enlarged and improved, that Mr. Trollope continued in his generation. Of all works of fiction, his are the least like romances. He is far from being a satirist, like Thackeray—who perhaps is less a master of English fiction than a master of English prose—and far from being a humorist, like Dickens, or an analyst, like George Eliot. But he is still further from being a writer of romances like, say, Mr. Blackmore.

like, say, Mr. Blackmore.

The honestly prosaic view of life is that which Trollope always takes; and to that kind of interest which is properly to be called romantic, the interest of distant times, of distant climes, of remote conditions, the interest of the wonderful because unknown, he never appeals or tries to appeal. The romantic manner in art has been defined with much shrewdness by a recent and very bright writer, Mr. Louis Stevenson, as "a consciousness of the background." That is what it does seem to consist in, as distinguished from the classic manner; that is what it seems to consist in also, as distinguished from the prosaic manner, the manner of Trollope. There is something ludicrous sometimes in Trollope's determined avoidance of whatever is romantic, as unbeseeming a conscientious novelist. He lays the scene of one of his innumerable novels in the Holy Land, but he takes pains to let us understand at once that it is not because the Holy Land is remote and storied, and teeming with associations, and so offers an opportunity for romantic illusion and atmosphere and local color that he does this. It is because it is not very remote, after all, and because the British tourist very commonly goes there and gorgonizes the scene of sacred story with a stony British stare. He has been there himself and it is because his caravan of English, containing, if we remember rightly, his lovers, might

very probably be there, and be as commonplace as if they had stayed in London, that he takes them from Jerusalem to Jericho, or Damascus, or wherever it is. Nor is it at all the contrast between the triviality of his characters and the impressiveness of their surroundings that interests him. In fact, there is no such contrast for him any more than for the characters. His dry realism dispels the illusion and removes the atmosphere and turns the local color to a monotone of grey. It is like looking at a photograph of the Garden of Gethsemane, and after we have contemplated it, the commonplace Britons no more seem out of place

to us than they do to Mr. Trollope, or to themselves. And as with scenery, so with incidents. People sometimes complain of Trollope's novels that they are uneventful, but it is not the lack of incident that makes them seem commonplace, but the prosaic and pedestrian treatment. So far as actual eventfulness goes, many melo-dramas might be made from Trollope's fifty novels, and the statistics of them would probably show as high a percentage of crime as those of any other British novelist not professedly sensational. The decalogue is invaded about as often as in the works of any other writer of English fiction. The one commandment the breakage of which is forbidden to the novelists of countries where novels are read by young girls, is reasonably well respected, and is only menaced, so far as we remember, by an abortive elopement or two. But there are murder, and robbery, and forgery, and other crimes eligible for mixed society in considerable quantity, only they are so managed as to take all the "sensation" out of them. In one of the recent novels, a dean chokes a marquis till he is black in the face, and then throws him in the grate. In the hands of other men, this incident would be a "situation." But it is part of the Trollope method to avoid anything so exciting as a "situation," and he relates the incident so that it has no injurious effect on the mind of the most nervous reader. In fact, one sees that the author has not introduced the incident for its own sake, but only by reason of the enjoyment he anticipates, and realizes, when the news reaches the deanery and the marquis's country-seat, and gives rise to the ferment of ecclesi-astical and female tattle in which he delights. And then, too, it is given as everything is given in Mr. Trollope's novels, as an answer to the child's question, "What happened next?" Mr. Trollope himself does not know until the question presents itself. A man who writes two novels a year for twenty-five years, and makes it a rule to begin one on the day on which he ends another, must be continually asking and answering this question. He cannot map out his stories beforehand. Apparently the Trollope method is to find two persons whose characters sometimes, but much oftener whose circumstances, offer a contrast which is mildly interesting, without being in any way shocking, and then to provide them with full sets of accessories, human and inanimate, and conduct them through such not improper or too violent adventures as may subsequently occur to the narrator. Sometimes, manifestly, it is an incident which forms the starting-point, and the author possibly determines to do something which shall thrill his apathetic readers. But when he comes to the point, his British aversion to "gush" and exaggeration gets the better of him; he is as much ashamed of himself as if he had caught himself shouting across a dinner-table, and he proceeds, with his agreeable and well-modulated voice, to chronicle his customary small beer.

But then the chronicle is interesting, and this fact puzzles and confuses the critics until they declare that the novels are dull when they only ought to be dull. Certainly, one can leave one of them half read without a pang if anything more important calls him away, and he may sometimes be in doubt, upon opening one, whether he has not read it before. But he can read it to the end, if he is not interrupted—also without a pang, and with a mild continuing interest which he is some-times at a loss to account for to himself. Mr. Trollope is an uncommonly good writer, as the puzzled reader finds himself fain to acknowledge, and designs, in his small way, with his eye on the object, so that we do see what he undertakes to make us see. And what he undertakes to make us see is the aspect of English life in our time. The subject interests us on this side of the ocean in a different way from Mr. Trollope's readers who are his countrymen. Americans imagine that they get from Trollope what they would get from living with Trollope's people; while the interest for his English readers is the same as that which De Quincy once undertook to analyze, the interest of seeing every-day objects upon the stage. We read for instruction, unconsciously, and they for recognition of the familiar "properties" of life in new combinations; but the interest in each case is the same, the interest attaching to minute and scrupulous accuracy of reproduction. The photograph of the Garden of Gethsemane would have an attractiveness of its own, and that would be the same as the attractiveness of Mr. Trollope's realism, which is not only not romantic but is the negation of romance. In place of the charm of illusion it offers us the interest of disillusion.

Trollope's interesting and curious book about Cicero, published last year, shows the method of his fiction more plainly, perhaps, than the fiction itself. Instead of trying to reconstruct Cicero's surroundings for modern readers, an attempt in which his lack of imaginative power would have brought him to grief, he modernizes the man himself, figures him as a club-man and member of the House of Commons and

writer of review articles in London, and depicts what a London success he would have been. And throughout the book he assumes that for all practical purposes Cicero's Rome was Gladstone's London. Of course, there is a radical misconception here which vitiates the book as a historical study, and yet how real and modern and life-like-photographically life-like-does it make the Roman. Mr. Trollope himself has never imagined a character, although his stage is supplied with English types otherwise familiar—the walking gentlemen and leading ladies and heavy fathers required for the cast of a society drama. But he had a clear enough conception of Cicero to make him figure to advantage in clothes from a London tailor and on a stage of Mr. Trollope's own setting, and the Cicero is one of the most entertaining of his books, and shares with the best of the novels-if the superlative or even the comparative degree is not out of place in speaking of his novels-the interest of disillusion.

This hard realism of treatment, this unvarying level of prose and this studious understatement are literary qualities which reproduce the British social ideal. It is a singular ideal, and goes further than a mere nil admirari. It is a triumph of "good form" to leave the man with whom you have been conversing all dinner time in a state of uncertainty whether you are a genius or an idiot, and especially to leave him in doubt whether you are interested in anything in particular. Enthusiasm is the worst possible form, and so Mr. Trollope, who always leaves his readers in doubt whether he is particularly interested in what his people are doing, and makes a wilful murder as tame as a tea-party by the equable monotone of his discourse, has attained in literature the social tone. He has keen observation, though he sees men and women in the same way in which British society would like to see them, as trees walking; he has a suppressed and undemonstrative humor, and he never attempts pathos, which, being attended with and conducive to excitement is particularly bad form, although he gives us to understand that some of his people are inwardly much affected by the death or misbehavior of others. Verily he has his reward. "Mr. Trollope," said the Saturday Review once, in solemn and supreme commendation, "always writes like an English gentleman." The indefatigable annalist, whose prodigious an English gentleman." The indefatigable annalist, whose prodigious literary activity was out of all proportion to his intellectual activity, produced in enormous quantities the wares which suited the British market as only a skilful literary artisan could have done.

Literary art is another matter. If Mr. Trollope had lived a century earlier he would probably have been a writer of memoirs and correspondence, and would have surpassed Horace Walpole in value to the future historian. Writing when the market called for fiction, he put the same material into a form of work which is commonly supposed to be connected with romance, as Gilbert White might under pressure have written a zoölogical novel about Selborne. The facts would still be there, and, though nobody thinks of Trollope's novels as works of art, as documents of English society and manners during his time they are, perhaps, of more value than the observations of the artists, his contemporaries, perturbed as these are by imagination or produced under morbid and morbific excitement.

TENNESSEE'S STATE DEBT

To the Editor of THE AMERICAN:

LLOW me space to correct your Memphis correspondent as to the points made in the following extracts from his letter printed in your of December 9th, and written in reply to your correspondent, "Truth." I quote:

The State debt (of Tennessee,) is in round figures \$30,000,000. The holders of about \$8,000,000 of this sum agreed to accept the Republican settlement, which is only ten cents on the dollar more than that offered by the Democrats. The Republicans make no provision for those who do not "accept" this settlement; on the contrary, they openly proclaim that the creditors must take this or "trust to what the future will bring forth." It surely cannot be denied that some element of repudiation enters into this settlement; what that is can best be computed by the bondholders themselves. "Truth" settlement; what that is can best be computed by the bondholders themselves. "Truth" also fails to call attention to the fact that the Democrats claim that a large part of the indebtedness was issued fraudulently, that it was so reported by a joint-committee of investigation, appointed by the upper and lower houses of the General Assembly, composed of men of conspicuous integrity; of this, the Democrats propose to pay only half as a compromise, denying the validity of the whole. There is a part of the debt, about 53,000,000, not disputed by anyone. This the Democrats propose to pay in full. Our condition is unfortunate enough, but whilst the difference to the creditor between the amount offered him by Republicans and Democrats is small, the difference between the principle maintained by the repudiation of forty cents on the dollar and the principle maintained by the repudiation of fifty cents on the dollar appears to be less.

(1) The debt is less than \$29,000,000.

(2) Over \$13,000,000 of the bonds outstanding had been funded under the existing settlement when "J. P." dated his communication,

of which the above is a part.

(3) The settlement at 60 cents on the dollar and 3, 4, 5 and 6 per cent. interest, was limited in its operations until January 1, 1883. Those who passed it thought possibly Tennessee might achieve another Legislature composed of others than demagogues and repudiators, and that their successors would of course take care of any balance of unfunded bonds. For a readjuster to come forward and attack the wisdom of a body on the ground that it depended on his class to do justice, is not self-laudation, though the sneer at those who trusted the sneerer is quite in place.

(4) What Democrats in Tennessee have claimed that a large share of the State debt was issued fraudulently? Savage and his handful of repudiationist followers, none others. General Bate, Senator Harris,
—no man ever honored with a seat in Congress from the State, ever set up such a claim. Two Democratic Legislatures and every court in the State have declared the debt valid and morally binding on the people. The Democrats, when they had a majority of three to one in the Legislature, funded the debt as it now stands, and paid three instalments of interest on it. There is not a Democrat of any standing in the State

who dare say a great part of the debt is fraudulent.

"J. P." says about \$3,000,000 of the debt is undisputed. This is the old fraudulent talk about the "debt proper," which actually amounts to \$8,000,000. The Bate platform proposed to pay this debt in full at 6 per cent. interest. They found they could not hold the repudiation vote together on that proposition honestly stated, so they all, from Bate down to the ward strikers, cooked up figures to make an apparent showing that the "debt proper" was \$3,000,000 or less.

There is not in "J. P.'s" entire letter a single truthful statement.

No committee "composed of men of conspicuous integrity" ever reported that the debt of Tennessee, as funded by the Democrats in 1873, was tainted with fraud, and a citizen who can read and write ought to know the story for a falsehood. The Bate men began their campaign by boasting that their "tender" of 50 per cent. and 3 per cent. interest, of what they called the railroad debt, and the "debt proper" in full, gave the bondholders more than the settlement passed by the late Legislature. They soon backed out of that and showed that they offered much less than the 60 per cent. settlement would come to.

There is not an atom of excuse for repudiation in Tennessee. The State got, and is now getting, an enormous interest on her debt through the benefits of her railroad system, her turnpikes and public buildings. Tennessee is rich, and I can conceive of no greater folly in the ignorant, or villainy in the unprincipled demagogues, among her citizens, than their advertising their State as a beggar that cannot pay its just dues.

J. E. MacGowan.

Chattanooga, December 12.

"ILLITERACY IN THE SOUTH."

A NOTE FROM SENATOR JOHNSTON ON VIRGINIA'S SHOWING. To the Editor of THE AMERICAN:

YOUR article in THE AMERICAN of the 9th instant, on "Illiteracy in the South" has more apparent than real truth. It is erroneous and misleading in two respects:

1. You compare, as to education, Pennsylvania, nearly the whole population of which is white, to Virginia, one-third or more of whose people are black, to the prejudice of the latter State. And

2. You base your estimate of what a State should pay, in the way of

taxation, upon population instead of property.

The colored people of the South, whatever they may do hereafter, as yet pay no taxes, or comparatively none. They constitute two-fifths of the people of Virginia, and the whites, who make the three-fifths, not only pay the expense of educating their own children, but the colored children as well. The statistics you quote show that the school tax in Pennsylvania amounts to a charge of \$1.74 per capita on her people, while in Virginia it only reaches 69 cents. But, if a fair allowance be made for the non-taxpaying colored people, the sum in Virginia would be brought up to more than a dollar.

But taxation should be based upon wealth and property, and not upon mere numbers. It is not fair to institute a comparison between a State impoverished by the war, like Virginia, and one enriched by it, like Pennsylvania. In the mere count of numbers, a pauper in the streets of New York, makes as much as W. H. Vanderbilt, but Vanderbilt is abler to pay taxes than the pauper, and should be assessed with more. I have not before me the statistics of the wealth and prowith more. I have not before me the statistics of the wealth and property of the two States of Pennsylvania and Virginia, but I will venture to guess that, if you will look them up, you will find the \$946,109 Virginia pays annually for the support of her public schools is as high a percentage upon her property as the \$7,449,013 Pennsylvania pays is upon hers.

Yours, etc., JOHN W. JOHNSTON.

United States Senate, Washington, D. C., December 11.

[We entirely agree with Senator Johnston in the general tenor of his letter, and should regret it if our article of last week were understood as a complaint or criticism of the Southern States for not spending larger sums for school purposes. We do not go into the inquiry, at all, whether any of them deserve such criticism—in a general sense, we think that is not the side of the case which is now claiming consideration. The fact is, as Senator Johnston states concerning Virginia, that the tax-bearing abilities of the people of the South are not adequate to the raising of the amount of money requisite to cope with the mass of illiseracy amongst them. So long as the colored people pay little or no tax—and of course they cannot pay, until they accumulate—it will be out of the question for any of the States to raise an adequate sum for schools by their own taxation. It is a perfectly reasonable and legitimate explanation of the fact that their per capita expenditure is smaller than that of States like Pennsylvania.

The facts, however, stand as we stated. They can hardly be termed "misleading," we think, as Senator Johnston declares them. On the contrary, they necessarily point, if they do not lead, to the necessity of securing from some quarter a larger revenue for school purposes in the South. The plan suggested by The American is to use some of the internal revenue surplus derived from the taxes on spirits.—Editor The AMERICAN.]

THE BURDEN OF THE WATER.

THE voices of brooks and of fountains, The burden of bountiful streams,-The cataract hurled from the mountains, With the rainbow's miraculous beams,-

Hold secrets of joy and of sorrow, The records of forest or fen .-A language no poet may borrow To read its rich meaning to men!

And when, through long distance undaunted, The deep rivers roll to the main, And the sea-winds above them have chanted Weird poems of passion or pain,-

The tides, in their rhythmic emotion, To the gathering waters unfold The infinite grief of the ocean On the breast of the billows outrolled!

Augusta, Ga.

WILLIAM H. HAYNE.

LITERATURE.

GRIFFIS'S " COREA, THE HERMIT NATION."

'HE opening of Corea to American and European commerce will furnish us with much more trustworthy accounts of the country than we have had hitherto; but just at present there is need of a good summary of what is known, or supposed to be known, about it. This need the Rev. William Griffis, of Schenectady, meets in his "Corea, the Hermit Nation'' (New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons). Mr. Griffis gave us in his "Mikado's Empire" one of the best books about Japan, based on observations made during his residence in that country and on a study at first-hand of its literature. This led him to look up the story of the sister-kingdom, and from the Japanese authorities he was led to study what Chinese and European authors had furnished on the same

Mr. Griffis traces Corea to a branch of the Manchouris called the Fuyus, who attained a higher civilization than the rest, perhaps through Chinese influence, and who moved southwestward into the upper part of the peninsula. He discloses to us the existence, from time immemorial, of something like a state-system of Eastern Asia, in which China, Japan, Corea and the Riu-Kiu Islands are the members. And he shows, also, that Corea presents both in dress, manners and creed, a picture of China as it was, centuries ago, under the native Ming dynasty, and before the invasion of the Tartars put a stop to the natural development of the national life. We have been so much accustomed to regard the Coreans as a people apart and by themselves, that it produces a surprise to learn how closely the history of the three nations has been blended since long before the Christian era.

After the earlier history has been treated, Mr. Griffis devotes the second third of his book to an account of the political and social life of the country. It is not an attractive picture. Corea is the land of feudal domination, aristocratic indolence, fanaticism for a shallow and su-perstitious religion, and fierce but meaningless political antagonisms. Buddhism has been virtually exterminated after possessing the whole country and converting Japan. Its temples still stand in places, but generally without worshippers. Its vast monasteries are used as forts. The creed of Confucius dominates all minds with its dwarfing and nar-

rowing religion of etiquette.

Of the later history, which completes the book, the story of the Roman Catholic missions in Japan forms the chief interest. Christianity first effected a rooting in Corea through the study of certain Chinese tracts written by Catholic missionaries. The new converts set up a Corean reproduction of that church, with hierarchy, mass, confessional and so forth, and not for some time did they discover the necessity of getting an ordained and authoritative priesthood from the West. Certain French priests and bishops took their lives in their hands and penetrated the country, in spite of the constant watch against the intrusion of foreigners, and the laws which threatened death to interlopers. They had marked success, Coreans becoming Catholic Christians by tens of thousands. But as often as a shift of power put the extreme anti-foreign element at the helm, a fierce persecution broke out. Of four bishops and nineteen priests, fourteen died as martyrs, as did hundreds of native Christians; and by 1866 not a single foreign priest was left, and the Christians were obliged to conceal their religious faith. But Christianity still remains in Corea, and the opening of the country might be the signal for its vigorous revival and spread. Mr. Griffis criticizes somewhat severely the conduct of the priests and their converts as anti-national, in looking to foreign powers for help and protection. But the acts of men

in such emergencies deserve lighter judgment.

The account of the recent negotiations to open up the country to foreign commerce, explains much that was hardly intelligible in the newspaper accounts. It shows the sinister part which Tai-wen-Kun, the author of the emeute and massacre at Seoul, has been playing ever since his accession to the regency in 1863. It shows that both China and Japan regard America as the best friend and protector of the oriental nations, and that it is to their united influence we owe the access given to Commodore Shufeldt. But it omits all account of the provisions of the treaty, and therefore does not enter upon the difficulties which have led the Administration to refuse to lay the treaty before the

Mr. Griffis is not so lively in this work as in that on Japan, for obvious sons. He has not acquired the skill needed to produce a really good and clear narrative. At times he anticipates the natural order of facts for the sake of a telling rhetorical point, and then he is forced to repeat these when he reaches the proper place. His sentence-building often is awkward in the extreme. For instance, we find on page 112, "Crossing, upon the ice, the river, which was then frozen many feet in thickness, their foes were soon left behind." He is not always careful to keep his facts in hand. Describing the marvellous defence of Uru-san Castle by the Japanese, in 1598, he says it lasted "an entire year." The castle was built in January of that year, and the garrison was relieved May 10th. He has a professional weakness for scriptural quotations, which are not always apposite, and at times are repeated ad nauseam. His maps do not always illustrate the text, as will be seen by those who look to the map on page 131 for the places named in the account of the second Japanese invasion. He might have made his narrative more intelligible by giving dates more plentifully. These are faults which are easily mended, and, after all, the worst of them do not detract much from the excellence of a book which fills a vacant place in our literature, and fills it well.

MR. KENNEDY'S LIFE OF WHITTIER.—Biographies of poets and summing-up criticisms of their works are generally left for the time when such work can be treated of entirely in the past tense, but one of the bestbeloved of American poets has suffered the fate of becoming the subject of such a biography while still very much alive indeed. Witness the volume entitled "John Greenleaf Whittier: His Life, Genius and Writings" (By W. Sloane Kennedy. Boston: S. E. Cassino), in which the poet's life is treated of in an exhaustive style, through its various phases as boy, man, editor, author, reformer, poet, etc.; his ancestry is traced, the outward incidents of his life narrated, and his whole life's work classified and commented upon. The manner in which all this is done is not such as can be supposed to be entirely grateful to the feelings of the venerable subject of the biography, albeit the most modest and least self-assuming of men, as certainly it jars severely in many respects upon the taste and feelings of those who love and honor him; nevertheless, it is in one sense a privilege for which to be grateful to be thus led to view, in one continuous course, one of the purest, noblest and bravest lives that was ever illustrated by the poetic flame which has made it a light to the world, and to be brought by its story into renewed sympathy with the brave reformers of an era which has now so entirely passed by that there is some danger of forgetting our full obligations to those who bore the heat and burden of its day.

The biographer of Whittier, in one of his remarkable summings-up, observes: "He has three crazes which have nearly ruined the mass of his poetry. They are the reform craze, the religious craze, and the rhyme craze." It is a pity he did not add the crazes of being a man and a poet, in order to fully lump the essentials of Whittier. One can only smile at this and at the succeeding, "Poor fellow!—and yet," etc., and at similar remarks; the de haut en bas tone is so truly ludicrous; of much of the matter with which Mr. Kennedy's pages are cumbered. The disquisitions on Quakerism, past, present and to come, may plead some pertinence to the subject of "the Quaker Poet;" but it is hardly germane to the matter to characterize the mass of Philadelphians as "the greedy and vile-mannered non-Quaker canaille of that democratic city." Unless, indeed, such an exquisite exponent of good manners

has a right to speak in and out of season!

THE LIFE OF HAYDN.—Mr. George A. Upton's "Life of Haydn" (Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co.) is a translation and abridgment of Ludwig Nohl's larger work of the same title, and furnishes a pleasant account of the life of the "father of the symphony and the string quartette." At this late day, criticism of the works of Haydn is almost quartette." At this late day, criticism of the works of Haydn is almost supererogatory, and it is well, therefore, that the little book before us is

anecdotal rather than critical. The incidents in Haydn's life are not numerous, but such is the interest in that simple-minded and lovable composer that whatever contributes to a better acquaintance with him

is gladly welcomed.

Mr. Upton, in his preface, informs the English reader that Richard Wagner greatly admires the philosophy of Schopenhauer, and goes on to quote Herr Wagner, as follows: "The mere element of music, as an idea of the world, is not beheld by us, but felt instead, in the depths of consciousness, and we understand that idea to be an immediate revelation of the unity of the Will, which, proceeding from the unity of human nature, incontrovertibly exhibits itself to our consciousness as unity with universal nature also, which indeed we likewise perceive through If this be the true definition of music, need we wonder that the music-drama of the genius who combines the three roles of poet, pamphleteer and musician in his own person, is not fully understood by those who find rest and comfort in the strains of Bach, Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven? Or, are we to take an anti-Wagnerite view of the subject, and claim that, true to his admiration for Schopenhauer, Herr Wagner meant to write pessimistic music, which, of course, cannot be expected to make us happier.

Mr. Upton, on page 185, mentions "a bust by Gyps." We trust that, in a later edition, he will add a foot-note, giving some informa-

tion about the sculptor thus referred to.

MINOR NOTICES.

PERSONS who advocate phonetic spelling will be interested in "The Gospel according to St. Mark, in Phonetic Spelling," published by Funk & Wagnalls, of New York. Other persons, perhaps, may find entertainment in perusing one of the Gospels in such form as this: "When Jizos herd it, he seth ontu them: The that ar hol hav no nid ov the fizishan, bot the that ar sic: I cem not tu col the rityos, bot given to a signed to the seth ontu them." siners tu ripentans.

In "Facts and Phases of Animal Life" (D. Appleton & Co., New York), Mr. Vernon S. Morwood presents to young readers a large amount of useful information respecting the physical construction, the habits and the general characteristics of brutes. The text is enlivened by the introduction of many amusing and instructive anecdotes, and by a number of excellent wood engravings.

Even those selfish persons who give themselves no concern because of the existence in the world, and in every community, of social problems of a puzzling and terrifying character, will read with interest Helen Campbell's newly published volume ("The Problem of the Poor." Fords, Howard & Hulbert, New York). The book has the charm which comes from relation of an unusual individual experience. It presents the charm which comes from relation of an unusual individual experience. It presents the results of a close inspection of the conditions of the very poorest poor in their abiding places, and when it has uncovered the unpleasant, and sometimes even loathsome, mass of wretchedness, it undertakes to indicate the lines upon which improvement may be effected. The methods of reform are not new: they include industrial training for the young, decent houses, pure air and proper food for all, and then spiritual elevation when the physical nature has been made more wholesome; but the scheme has the advantage over some others, that it is practicable, and well deserving of the attention of these who are philapthy origins in fact as wall as in theory. tion of those who are philanthropists in fact as well as in theory

Rev. Dr. Deems, in a little pamphlet, "The Lesson in the Closet" (Funk & Wagnalls, New York), appends what may be called a personal devotional exercise to each of the International Sunday School Lessons for the first six months of each year. The exercises seem to us to be admirable in spirit, and deserving of the attention of Sunday

School teachers who are in earnest in their religion.

Every child ought to read the tales written by the brothers Grimm, for they are only second to those that have endeared Hans Christian Andersen to readers of all ages. Lucy Crane has translated two score of the prettiest of the Grimm stories ("Household Stories from the Collection of the Brothers Grimm." Macmillan & Co., London), and Walter Crane has illustrated them in a keenly sympathetic spirit.

A comical tragedy of Wall Street is entitled "The Lambs" by its author, Mr. A comical tragedy of Wall Street is entitled "The Lambs" by its author, Mr. Robert Grant. In rhyme Mr. Grant has represented the career of a young man who undertakes to make his fortune by speculating in stocks. The book will probably be regarded as amusing only by those who have encountered another fate in speculation than that which befalls the hero. There are many good pictures in the volume (Jas. R. Osgood & Co., Boston).

A specimen of British fun is supplied in "The Horkey," a ballad by Robert Bloomfield (Macmillan & Co., London). The book is intended for children, and the colored illustrations by Cruikshank, many in number, are excellent enough to interest old and young; but there is difficulty in understanding how any person outside of the British Islands can discern anything of an amusing character in the text. Even Mr. Burnaud's preface, crammed with puns, is inexpressibly dreary.

Margaret Vandergrist, one of the most charming of American writers for the young, offers, in her "Holidays at Home" (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia), a series of delightful tales for little folks. Each of these is based upon an ingenious conception, and has just enough of a moral to it to make it impressive. The book is one of the best of its kind presented during this season.

It is saddening to know that the third series of "Spare Hours" ("Locke and Sydenham, and other papers." By John Brown, M. D. [etc.]. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), completes the collection of all we must ever expect to read from the pen of the true, wise and kindly humorist to whom we owe the knowledge of Rab and his Friends, the strange elf-child Pet Marjorie, and other characters only second to these in interthe strange elf-child Pet Marjorie, and other characters only second to these in interest. He was a writer whom readers learned to love while enjoying what he wrote. All his biographical sketches, characteristic and full of vitality as they are, paint no character more forcibly than that of the biographer himself and none more dear to the reader. The essays which compose the present volume of the series are of a more solid nature, with less of what is called "popular" writing than in those which preceded it; but in these, as in those, the language is always fresh, racy and unconventional—the body of thought and not merely its clothing. Scottish idioms are often very happily used instead of their English equivalents; there is, for instance, something very graphic in the characterization of the mind of Lord Brougham as being "always in full spate," the vehement rush of the "spate," or freshet, accords so well with what we know of the man whose "foible was ommiscience."—The collection of Dr. Brown's writings is completed in this volume by the addition of several miscellane-ous essays to the more purely professional papers which form the bulk of its contents. We have received two more volumes of "The International Revision Commentary," edited by Dr. Schaff—Luke, edited by Professor Riddle, of Hariford, and Acts, edited by Deans Howson and Spence. These differ from the treatment of the same books by the same authors in the "Illustrated Popular Commentary," published in three large volumes by the same house (Chas. Scribners' Sons, New York), in heing revised to adapt them to the revised version. They seem to be intended for the class of readers who used to find nutriment and suggestion in Mr. Barnes's "Notes," but they exhibit a marked improvement as to both substance and method upon those once useful books.

In "Grandmother Elsie: A Sequel to Elsie's Widowhood" (By Martha Finley, author of "Elsie Dinsmore," etc., etc. (New York: Dodd, Mead & Co), a well known heroine makes her latest, and it may be supposed her final, appearance before the circle of youthful readers who have been kept so thoroughly informed of the course of her life and fortunes. Grandmotherhood is pretty well along for a heroine, but as she remains perennially young and beautiful, there is no security that new relationships may not be found for her in which she may shine as of old, expressing the most superior sentiments in the most carefully correct language, and drawing morals worthy of the Duchess in wonderland herself.

This period of cheap "reprints" has had some astonishing results in England, as well as in the United States. It took the London publishers some time to grasp the idea, but the success of the sixpenny "Cruise of the Yacht Sunbeam" apparently settled the question, and now good serviceable editions of standard works are plentiful at a cost of less pence than they formerly cost shillings. One of the best of these reprints we have seen is a volume put out by the Macmillans which includes "Tom Brown at Rugby," Waterton's "Wanderings in South America," and Washington Irving's "Old Christmas" and "Bracebridge Hall." With all this material, the book is clearly printed without being bulky, and it contains over 400 illustrations. It goes without saying that liberality such as this on the part of publishers must add greatly to the sum of the world's reading.

There surely has never been a holiday season richer than this in "juveniles" of a high class. One of the best is "The Young Moose Hunters," by C. A. Stephens, published by Estes & Lauriat, Boston. Mr. Stephens won a good name among writers for boys, by his "Knock-about Club," but the present book marks an advance in writing power. In the "Moose Hunters" we are introduced to three fine young fellows who are struggling against odds in their efforts to enter college. They have no "folks" to support them while getting their education, and are forced in their vacations to make money to see them through the ensuing term. Many students in New England do this very thing. The young men under notice turn hunters, and their adventures "way down in Maine" are in keeping with the praiseworthy object which sends them into the wilderness. Mr. Stephens has produced a very manly, sturdy book.

The "Zig-Zag Journey" series has made several notable additions to books for young people. The latest volume of the series is the "Zig-Zag Journey in the Occident," being an account of a summer trip by a party of boys from Boston to San Francisco. Previous volumes detailed travels in Europe, the Orient and classic lands; this one comes nearer the sympathies of Young America in general. The main object of the book is to fit to youthful apprehension the story of the great emigration movement which is so steadily filling up our enormous western possessions. "Hezekiah Butterworth," the alleged writer of these travels, has an aptitude for this kind of narrative, and mingles amusement and instruction in a pleasing and edifying manner. (Estes & Lauriat, Boston.)

"Our Boys in India," by Harry W. French (Lee & Shepard, Boston), is another "juvenile" of high interest, combining adventure, fact and humor. It gives the wanderings of two young Americans in Hindustan, with their lively doings on the sacred rivers and wild mountains of "farthest India." It is a very elaborately gotten up holiday book. Like "The Young Moose Hunters," and the "Zig-Zag Journeys," it is richly illustrated, its 150 pictures supplementing the text in an effective fashion. Thugs, tigers, elephants, Buddhism and ancient temples make a fascinating melange, the spell of which the young reader of "Our Boys in India" will find it impossible to resisting

"Winning His Way," by Charles Carleton Coffin, tells a story of work and triumph on the Western frontier supplemented by patriotic services in the Rebellion. It is a wholesome and genial narrative, and is illustrated by a particularly excellent series of full-page pictures. (Estes & Lauriat, Boston.)

"Chatterbox" for 1882 is quite as varied and generally attractive as any of the preceding volumes. This periodical, yearly bound as a holiday book, is very judiciously edited by J. Erskine Clarke, M. A., and the reading matter and pictures given in it are invariably of a kind to suit the tastes of young patrons. A number of colored plates are inserted in this volume, which add much to its power of pleasing. (Estes & Lauriat, Boston.)

The latest issue of the excellent "Science Ladder" series, is a little treatise on "The Lowest Forms of Water Animals." It is by N. D'Anvers, Author of "Forms of Land and Water," "Vegetable Life," etc., a trained naturalist and a lucid and forcible writer. The "Science Ladders" are veritable gems of books. They are purely elementary but "aim," as the editor modestly says, at awakening powers of reasoning and observation. This last issue is one of the best of the series we have seen. (Geo. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.)

Estes & Lauriat, Boston, have two very handsome illustrated holiday books, Schiller's "Song of the Bell," and Mrs. Akers Allen's "Rock Me to Sleep, Mother." The former's illustrations are by Alexander Liezen Mayer, and Edmund H. Garrett; the latter's, Messrs. McCutcheon, Church, Garrett, Taylor and others. Mr. Garrett's land-scapes are especially fine.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- Schiller's Song of the Bell. With illustrations by Alexander Liezen Mayer and Edmund II. Ganett. \$1.50. Estes and Lauriat, Boston. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)
- ROCK ME TO SLEEP, MOTHER. By Elizabeth Akers Allen. (Illustrated.) \$1.50. Estes & Lauriat, Boston. (l'orter & Coates, Philadelphia.)
- THE YOUNG Moose HUNTERS. A Backwoods Boy's Story. By C. A. Stephens. Pp. 288. \$1.75. Estes & Lauriat, Boston. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)
- Young Folks' History. The Queens of England. Abridged and adapted from Strickland's "Queens of England." By Rosalie Kaufman. Pp. 443. \$1.50. Estes & Lauriat, Boston. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)
- HEART OF STEEL. A Novel. By Christian Reid. Pp. 543. \$1.25. D. Appleton & Co., New York. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)
- SOME SHAKESPEAREAN COMMENTATORS. By Appleton Morgan. Pp. 44. \$0.75. Robert Clark & Co., Cincinnati.

- RAGNAROK: THE AGE OF FIRE AND GRAVEL. By Ignatius Donnelly. (Illustrated.)
 Pp. 452. \$2.00. D. Appleton & Co., New York. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)
- HERBERT SPENCER ON THE AMERICANS, AND THE AMERICANS ON HERBERT SPENCER.

 [Interview and Farewell Banquet in New York.] Pp. 96. \$0.10. D. Appleton & Co., New York. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)
- Tom Brown's School Days; Wanderings in South America; Old Christmas; Bracebridge Hall. (Illustrated.) Pp. 212. \$1.50. Macmillan & Co., New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- WHEN PAPA COMES HOME. The Story of Tip, Tap, Toe. By the Author of "Pansie's Flour Bin" [etc.]. Pp. 183. \$1.25. Macmillan & Co., New York. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)
- HISTORY OF THE NEGRO RACE IN AMERICA, FROM 1619 TO 1880. Together with a Preliminary Consideration of the Unity of the Human Family, an Historical Sketch of Africa [and Sierra Leone and Liberia]. By George W. Williams, First Colored Member of the Ohio Legislature. In Two Volumes. Vol. I, 1619 to 1800. Pp. 481. \$3.50. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia)
- Brinton's Library of Aboriginal American Literature. No. 1. The Maya Chronicles. Edited by Daniel G. Brinton, M. D. Pp. 279. \$3.00. Published by the Author, Philadelphia.

SCIENCE.

ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES.-PROCEEDINGS.

Meeting of December 5.—Professor Thomas Meehan, Vice President, in the chair. Dr. Horn referred to the remarkable geographical distribution of Amphisoa, a carnivorous water-beetle which is never met with out of water, and which possesses but very imperfect means for either aerial or terrestrial locomotion. Of the three known species composing the genus, one (A. insolens) is found in California, a second, in Vancouver Island, and the third (A. Davidis), recently described, in the elevated mountain region of Thibet.

Professor Meehan called the attention to "double" flowers of Acroclinium roses, rendered such by an extra divelopment of the chaffy scales of the receptacle. This was the first time, in the opinion of the speaker, that such a transformation had been noted in the case of the Composita.

Professor Lewis described the characters of the mineral Axinite.

Professor Cope described the structural characters of the extinct mammalian genus Bathmodon, and characterized the new species B. pachypus, whose remains (of about the size of the Indian rhinoceros) had been recently discovered by Mr. J. L. Whartman in the "Wasatch" (Eocene) deposits of the Big Horn Region,—The speaker pointed out the relations of the Creodont genus Trüsodon, and described the species T. conidens from the deposits of the "Peurco" group (Lower Eocene). The relationship existing between Uintatherium and Dinoceras was briefly discussed.

A paper entitled "On *Uintatherium*, *Bathmodon* and *Trüsodon*," by Professor E. D. Cope, was presented for publication.

Meeting of December 12 .- Professor Joseph Leidy, President, in the chair.

Professor Leidy called attention to and exhibited specimens of the remains of horses that had been submitted for his examination by the authorities of the Smithsonian Institution of Washington. Although there appears to have been no living horse on this continent at the time of its earliest settlement, the animal has since been so widely distributed that it frequently becomes a matter of considerable difficulty, in fact impossibility, to determine whether fragments collected in the various deposits actually belong to the recent animal or to an extinct (fossil) form, there being no question as to the former existence in America of an indigenous equine species, almost absolutely identical in form and size with the domestic horse. Some of the fragments now exhibited were found associated with the lossil remains of other animals, and in the case of several specimens from Mexico, they could be determined to belong to the extinct genus Hippotherium. A new species of this genus, H. Montezuma, was indicated.

Professor Cope stated that, in his belief, the coincident existence on this continent of man and the indigenous (fossil) horse would still be demonstrated. Proof of such associated occurrence is afforded by the auriferous gravels of California, which hold the remains of various extinct animals, including the horse, and from which the famous Calaveras skull, described by Prof. Whitney, had been extracted. Professor Cope discussed the age of the Laramie formation in the light of the latest paleontological discoveries, and indicated the characters of the new mammalian genus, Meniscoëssus, whose remains were found in the deposits of that group associated with Dinosaurian reptiles.

Professor Lewis, referring to the possible existence of Pliocene man, contended that there was strong evidence pointing against such an existence. In California, where the earliest human remains had been claimed, the associated implements, it was contended, exhibited too high a grade of workmanship to permit of their being relegated to so ancient a period. The subject (and the reported discovery of fossil human foot-prints from the California strata) was further discussed by Professors Leidy, Cope, Fraser,

Professor Heilprin, referring to the subject of Zoölogical distribution, and the various Zoögeographical regions that had been recognized by naturalists, stated his conclusion, founded on a comparative examination of the several mammalian faunas, that the so-called "Nearctic" or North American region was not a distinct faunal region in itself, but merely a part of the "Palearctic," or Eur-Asiatic, of which it properly formed only a lateral extension. For the combined region the name "Triarctic" was proposed.

Professor Cope held, from a consideration of the vertebrate fauns below the mammalian series—birds, reptiles and fishes—that the claims of the Nearctic to be considered a distinct region were as well founded as those of the other regions.

Dr. Horn maintained, from considerations connected with the distribution of the Coleoptera, that, as far as this class of animals is concerned, the North American region was clearly divisible into two sections: a northern (north of the St. Lawrence River). which was decidedly Palearctic in character, and a southern, whose relationship was with the region lying to the south.

Dr. McCook stated that the general distribution of the ant fauna supported the conclusions reached by Prof. Heilprin, several of the species being absolutely identical over the entire extent of the combined Nearctic and Palearctic regions. The spiders afforded less conclusive evidence in this direction.

The relationship existing between the North American and Eur-Asiatic butterflies was alluded to by Dr. Skinner.

Mr. Tryon contended that the molluscan fauna afforded corroborative evidence, at least in considerable part, as to a union of the two regions as now proposed by Mr. Heilprin, the Northern American forms being of a distinctive Palearctic or Eur-Asiatic character.

The relationships existing between the North American and Eur-Asiatic floras were referred to by Mr. Martindale, and the general subject was farther discussed by Messrs. Redfield, Cope, and Heilprin.

Professor Lewis explained the peculiarities of Biotite (black mica) enclosures in muscovite (white mica), and described the methods of such formation

Professor Persifor Fraser exhibited and explained a geological map of Chester County, Pa. (printed in 1881), which had been prepared under the auspices of the State Geological Survey

ROYAL SOCIETY AWARDS .- The awards of medals by the Royal Society for the present year have been as follows: The Copley medal to Prof. Cayley, F. R. S., for his researches in pure mathematics; the Rumford medal to Captain Abney, F. R. S., for his photographic researches and his discovery of the method of photographing the less refrangible part of the spectrum, especially the infra-red region; a royal medal to Prof. W. H. Flower, F. R. S., for his contribution to the morphology and classification of the mammalia, and to anthropology; and a royal medal to Lord Rayleigh, F. R. S., for his papers on mathematical and experimental physics; the Davy medal (in duplicate) to Dr. Mendelejeff and Lothar Meyer for their discovery of the periodic relations of the atomic weights.

THE HOME OF THE ASS .- M. Pietrement, in a work which has just appeared on the history of the horse (Les Chevaux dans les temps préhistoriques et historiques), finds that there is conclusive evidence proving that the true or original home of the domestic oriental ass is northern Africa-the Nubio-Abyssinian region -and not central or western Asia, the home of the present wild asses (so called), or more properly "kiangs" and "onagras," as has been at different times asserted by na turalists. It would therefore appear that the animal was first brought into domestic use by the ancient inhabitants of the Nile Valley, whence, at a very early historic period, it was rapidly introduced into the bordering countries of the Asiatic Continent, and as far eastward as China, where its existence can positively be determined to date back to the second century A. D.

THE FORTH BRIDGE.—The proposed gigantic railway bridge across the river Forth, to which we have several times had occasion to refer in our past issues-a steeltruss structure involving two unprecedented spans of 1,700 feet each—has been made the subject of sharp criticism from the part of Sir George Biddle Airy, the ex-Astronomer Royal of England, who seems to be dissatisfied with the proposed method of its construction, and seeks to prove by mathematical calculation that not sufficient latitude has been allowed for the unequal strains arising from wind pressure and otherwise to which it might be subjected. The objections urged by the Astronomer Royal have been met, however, by the engineers, Messrs. Fowler and Baker, and the distinguished physicist Prof. Osborne Reynolds, and it now appears that the structure is to be carried out in its original conception. The contract sum awarded for its construction is £1,600,000.

OBITUARY.-We have to record the deaths of Franz von Kobell, the distinguished mineralogist, and formerly professor of mineralogy in the University of Munich-author of the important treatise " Geschichte der Mineralogie von 1650 bis 1860;" and of Theodor Ludwig Wilhelm Bischoff, the eminent physiologist and anatomist, alternately professor at the Universities of Heidelberg, Giessen and Munich.

PARISIAN LITERARY NEWS.

PARIS, November 22.

THE playbill of the Comédie-Française to-night announces: "Cinquantenaire et deuxième représentation de 'Le Roi s'amuse.' " Victor Hugo's famous piece, produced at the Comédie-Française, November 21, 1832, was prohibited the next morning, and the prohibition was maintained until the foundation of the present Republic, so that the representation of to-night will really be the second. "Le Roi s'amuse" is so well known to English readers, under the title of "The Fool's Revenge," that I need not dwell upon the event here. The fiftieth anniversary, of to-night, will doubtless be a most imposing literary ceremony, and a great triumph for the poet whose life has been indeed a series of triumphs.

This week we have had to salute the arrival of a new dramatist, M. Catulle Mendès, whose piece "Les mères Enemies" was produced with immense success at the Au · bigu theatre on Saturday last, November 18. In this record of the literary movement in Paris, it is not my custom to pay particular attention to the stage, except in the rare

cases of the production of a literary piece. "Les mères Enemies" is decidedly a literary piece. The author, M. Catulle Mendès is a poet of no mean rank. Twenty years ago, Catulle Mendes arrived in Paris, gifted with a crop of sunny blond hair, beauty of almost feminine delicacy, and talent of an exquisite, precious, rare and corrupt kind. He published a volume of verse, "Philomela," full of rich and strange rhymes, uncommon cæsuras, rhythms imitated from Ronsard-in short all the qualities that were destined to characterize the modern Parnassian school of French poetry, of which he became the founder and chief. His next step towards fame was the foundation of the Revue Fantaisiste, amongst whose contributors were Théophile Gautier, -whose daughter, Judith, M. Mendès married,-Théodore de Banville, Alphonse Daudet, Baudelaire, Arsène Houssaye, Champfleury, Vacquerie, etc. Since then Catulle Mendès has expended his considerable literary and commercial activity in the editorship of numerous periodicals, amongst which was the Republique des Lettres in which Zola's "Assommoir" first appeared. He has written poems, stories, novels, newspaper articles and two or three minor dramatic pieces. In short, he has established himself as a poet and a prose-writer of indisputable and exceptional talent. His new drama "Les mères Enemies" has been hailed with unanimous applause by the public and by the critics. Catulle Mendès, they say, is the author destined to restore life to the heroic drama, "Les merès Enemies" is, in conception, details and style, a piece such as has not been represented on the French stage since the great romantic epoch-since "Lucrèce Borgia" and "Richard d'Arlington;" it is a drama of superior beauty, a work of the first order. These praises are indeed not exaggerated; the drama is grand, pathetic, sublime, heroic. Here, in a few words, is the subject: the calamitous annals of the Boleski family. The scene is laid in Poland. The hostile mothers are Elizabeth Boleska, a Pole and a Catholic, the devoted wife of Count Andre Boteski, and Sofia Ivanovitsch, a Russian and a schismatic, the second wife of the Count, who renounces his first wife, his religion and his country, in order to become a general under Catharine II. In reality, the hostile mothers are the Russian and Polish nationalities, and it is this symbolic signification of the struggle between the two mothers which often gives to this drama the heroic character of epopee. In a succession of fine tableaux, grand situations and shocks of sublime emotions, we follow the story of the strife between the two mothers, continued by their two sons, Jvan and Etienne, until the final and tragic extinction of the Boleski family. It is decidedly a work of striking power.

An important and curious work by M. Henry Harrisse, "Giovanni et Sebastiano Cabot, leur origine et leurs voyages," has just been published by Ernest Leroux. M. Harrisse is well known to Americans by his works on Columbus and by his "Bibliographia Vetushisima Americana." The author therefore needs no introduction. His new work is distinguished by the curious flair of new evidence, clearness of exposition, careful sifting, weighing and balancing of every scrap of testimony-in short of all those qualities of the high historical critic which have distinguished his previous researches. His critical study of the lives and work of the Cabots is followed by a cartography, a bibliography of works relating to the Cabots, and a chronology of the Northwest voyages from 1497 to 1550, the whole composed from unpublished documents. M. Harrisse's book is a model for critical historical monographs. A more complete work could not be desired.

A book to be read both for form and matter, for its elegant prose style and its wealth of interesting and amusing anecdotes, is "Mes Souvenirs," by the poet and journalist, Théodore de Banville. There is not a dull page in the volume, and not a celebrity of letters of the last fifty years about whom Banville has not something new to tell us. Janin, Vigny, Baudelaire, Daumier, Felix Pyat, Balzac, Hugo, Gautier, Scribe, Dumas, Heine, Mery-he has known them all, and he sees them all through the brilliant kaleidoscope of his lyric imagination. Then, too, there are charming chapters on the actors, on the theatres, on the cases of thirty years ago. In short, "Mes Souvenirs" is a charming volume, and perhaps the best work in prose that Banville has

In the December number, the Revue du Deux Mondes will begin the publication of a new novel by Victor Cherbuliez, written since his election to the Academy .- M. Ferdinand Brunetière has collected into a volume his critical essays published in the Revue du Deux Mondes under the title "Nouvelles études critiques sur l'histoire de la littérature Française" (1 vol. Hachette). The subjects are mostly chosen in the litterature of the s xteenth and seventeenth centuries .- The Duc de Broglie, who has an unpleasant habit of drawing morals of contempory application from the study of the history of the past, has just published two important octavo volumes of documentary matter entitled "Frédéric II. et Marie Thérèse" (2 vols. Calmann-Lévy).-An interesting work of anecdotic history is "Le Luxembourg (1300-1882), récis et confidences sur un vieux Palais," by Louis Favre (1 vol. Ollendorfl). It is the most complete history of the palace that has been written.-Another volume on the history of Paris is "Paris sous Louis XIV.," by Auguste Maquet (Laplace & Sanchez). The great feature of the book is a whole collection of views of Paris from 1650 to 1700, reproduced from engravings and unpublished drawings of the epoch. These drawings are accompanied simply by vignettes, fleurons and a frontispiece designed by the masters of the same epoch, Bailly, Lepantre, Puget, Audran, etc. "Paris sous Louis XIV." is a luxurious volume, but intelligently luxurious.-Madame Olympe Audouard, traveller, lecturer, advocate of woman's rights, spiritualist and journalist, has published a volume of "Silhouettes Parisiennes" of some interest. Her po nt of view at least is new. Believing firmly in the transmigration of souls, she seeks to reconstitute the part of her heroes and thus discovers that Charles Monselet was a Lucullus in the old Roman days, Victor Hugo a Spanish grandee, while Arsène Houssaye was no other than the beautiful and tender La Vallière.-The errors of erudition are painful to contemplate. M. Eugène Plon, author of an estimable work on Thorwaldsen, has

published a colossal and richly illustrated quarto on the life and work of Benvenuto Cellini (I vol. Henri Plon & Co.). In order to accomplish his task, M. Plon has spent more than 50,000 francs in travelling in order to inspect real or supposed works of Benvenuto. Now, nearly half his huge volume and nearly half his illustrations are devoted to works attributed to Benvenuto! The fact is, next to nothing is known about this artist's work; not above half a dozen really authentic pieces of it exist; what is the use of wasting time and money on a monumental tome remarkable only as an instance of persevering conjecture, leading to purely negative conclusions?-M. Leroy-Beaulieu, the political economist, is about to publish a curious volume of letters written by a dame of honor of the court of Russia to the Emperor Paul and the empress his wife. More material for the historians !- Another new mine of historical documents has been discovered by M. Charles Vatel, who has published a new history and partial rehabilitation of Madame Du Barry, " Histoire de Madame Du Barry" (1 vol. Bernard, Versailles). The unpublished papers of Mademoiselle de la Neuville, legatee of Madame Du Barry, personal letters and documents preserved in the public archives form the basis of this new study.—Two valuable books for specialists and amateurs are "La Gravure" by Henri Delaborde, member of the Institute (1 vol. Quantin), and "Les Procédés de la Gravure" by M. Loctalot (1 vol. Quantin).—On the occasion of the revival of "Le Roi s'amuse," Calmann-Lévy has published an elegant little pamphlet of Jehan Valter, containing documents, souvenirs and notes relating to the first performance of this famous piece. THEODORE CHILD.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

WE suggested at the time of the appearance of "Vice-Versa," that its author, Mr. "F. Anstey," had probably another and more real name. It is now stated that in private life Mr. Anstey is a Mr. Guthrie.

James S. Pike, who used to be well known as correspondent at Washington for the New York *Tribune*, in Mr. Greeley's days, and who had written some books, including "The New Puritan," and "The Prostrate South," died at Calais, Me., on the 29th will be style accord year. He was the U.S. Minimus at the New York and York , in his sixty-second year. He was the U. S. Minister to the Hague from 1861 to

"Meyer's Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles" is in the press of Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls, New York. It is edited—for this edition—by

The lawyers who think the jury system not a failure are stirred up by Mr. Stickney's article in the November Century affirming that it is, and some of them will reply to him. In the January issue of the magazine, Mr. Geo. W. Cable begins his history of the Lousiana Creoles, and the Hawthorne studies of "Dr. Grimshaw's Secret" will also be given in that number.

It is announced that Chambers's Encyclopedia has sent out a new edition (R. Worth ington, New York), with revisions in the American articles down to the first half of 1882, and with many of the scientific articles re-written to include the results of latest

London publishers have now undertaken to push the sales in England of another of our American monthlies. Messrs. Ward, Lock & Co. have made arrangements for the publication (beginning with the new year) of the Atlantic Monthly, simultaneously with the issue in America. It is one of our most decided triumphs in literature, this success of American magazines in commanding English patronage.

The Century Company (New York) announce an important work for immediate publication—the new edition of the "Imperial Dictionary," "a work which," they say, publication—the new edition of the "Imperial Dictionary," "a work which," they say, "has been accepted for more than a quarter of a century as a standard lexicon of the English language." The new edition has been in preparation for more than ten years, and contains about 130,000 words, with 3,000 illustrations. The work is somewhat more in the nature of an encyclopedia than has been usual with American dictionaries; besides giving the meanings of words, it goes into particulars as to the things which they represent. The American publishers will bring it out, as in England, in four volumes of convenient size—700 to 800 pages each. They announce that the price will be lower here than in England.

ART NOTES.

DR. SEYMOUR HADEN'S second lecture at Boston was delivered on November 29th and December 1st. the first (already alluded to in Tourism of the Control of the 29th and December 1st, the first (already alluded to in THE AMERICAN) having been given on November 27th. His second topic was "The Practice of Etching," and been given on November 27th. His second topic was "The Practice of Etching," and the lecture was largely devoted to details of practical instruction in the art. The processes of modern etchers were described at length. Dividing the production of an etching into three stages—the executive, the chemical, and the printing—he said the first was most important, as it included choice of subject and method of treatment. Ray in the said of execution, he declared, is absolutely necessary to a certain extent. The allurements of nature have neither weight nor body, and they must be taken upon the wing. There is a sort of profanation in the corrections given to a first impression. A certain amount of liberty may be taken with nature when in her presence, but never behind her back. The authorities on etching recommended by Dr. Haden are Bartsch, Blanc, Bosse, Bryan, Dupessis, Hamerton, Heinecken, Meyer, Nagler, Ottley, Parthey, Passavant, Piot and others. The final lecture in the course was on "The influence and place of painter-engraving (or etching) in the field of art.'

Mr. Hamerton's Portfolio (New York: J. W. Bouton) for November, has for its full-page art attractions an engraving, "Belisarius," by Simon Rochard, after the painting by Gérard; an etching, "Bolton Priory," by Brunet-Debains; and a pen-and-ink drawing, "The Collision," by H. W. Mesdag, reproduced by Dujardin. In the letter-press, Mr. Hamerton has concluded his series of papers on Autun, and the second of a series on Assisi, by Julia Cartwright, is given in this issue.

Michael Munkacsy, who has recovered from his recent illness, is working industriously upon his "Crucifixion of Jesus Christ." The studies of this large and important work have already been bought by the English and French amateurs at enormous

The Pennsylvania (Philadelphia) Academy of Fine Arts having proposed a competition in historical painting for the Autumn of 1883, to be known as the Temple Competition, a meeting of the members of the Committee of American Artists at Paris to select pictures for the fifty-third annual exhibition was held at the close of last month

in the atelier of Mr. Frank Moss. Mr. Moss presented the circular addressed to artists by the Academy, and a most flattering resolution was passed thanking the Directors of the Academy of Fine Arts for their efforts in behalf of American artists. A sub-committee was appointed, whose duty it is to make American artists acquainted with the principal features of the exhibition to be held in Philadelphia in 1883.

NEWS SUMMARY.

—The U. S. Senate, on Monday, confirmed a number of military nominations, among them those of Brigadier General John Pope to be Major General, Colonel Ronald S. Mackenzie to be Brigadier General, and Major William A. Rucker to be Deputy Paymaster-General.

—The Governor-General of Canada and the Princess Louise have arrived in San Francisco. The Governor-General returns to Canada to be present at the opening

—Municipal elections were held in Massachusetts Tuesday. In Boston, Albert Palmer, Democrat, was elected by 2,500 majority over Dr. Green, Republican and present incumbent. In Newburyport, Benjamin Hall, Republican, was elected Mayor by seven majority, and the vote was "for license." In Worcester, Hildreth, Republican and no-license, was elected Mayor. At Lowell, Donovan, Democrat, was elected Mayor. At Salem, Hill, Republican and citizens' candidate, had 108 plurality for Mayor. At Lynn, Baird, citizens' and temperance candidate, had fourteen majority for Mayor.

—The total of the subscriptions to date for the pedestal to support the statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World" for New York harbor amounts to \$36,500. The cost will be \$250,000.

—The false Prophet of Soudan, El Mehdi, is the notorious slave dealer Hadji Zecky, who for the last twenty-five years has devastated the whole of Upper Egypt and the greater part of Barbary and Nubia, and who, notwithstanding the efforts of Sir Samuel Baker to capture him, has always contrived to escape. He is enormously Samuel Baker to capture him, has always contrived to escape. He is enormously wealthy, those who know him saying he is the richest man in Africa, while in courage and cruelty he can hardly be surpassed. He was formerly a slave and obtained freedom

—The winter, in this country, seems a severe one. On Monday it was reported from northern Michigan that the snow there lay three feet deep on a level. During the week which ended Wednesday the temperature at Winnipeg, Manitoba, averaged 17.5 degrees below zero, the range being from 3 above to 29.5 below. Twelve inches of snow fell Wednesday in Quebec, and the storm continued at night, the snow drifting heavily.

-Mrs. Labouchere, who accompanied Mrs. Langtry to this country, has sailed for England, after a "tiff" with the latter, caused, as the gossip in several newspapers asserts, by the indiscretion of Mrs. Langtry in accepting too much attention from male admirers. Mrs. Langtry is now acting in Boston. The general tendency of criticism in regard to her art is that it is very imperfect, and that except for the curiosity to see her, her engagement would hardly be a success.

-Mr. McPherson, Clerk of the U. S. House of Representatives, has made up a roll of the new House, beginning March 4, 1883. It shows a Democratic majority of 52.

—The New York canals closed on Thursday, the 7th instant. There was a sudden and severe change in the weather in the eastern part of the United States on that day, the thermometer descending rapidly for several hours. The temperature in the West and Northwest was severely cold. In England, a snow storm of unusual severity

—The extensive emigration from the mountain districts of Hungary to America has caused the Hungarian Government to request Austria to stop emigrants not provided with passports.

—The Governor of Virginia, on Friday, issued a proclamation declaring the ratifi-cation at the recent election of the amendments to the State Constitution repealing the law for payment of capitation tax as a pre-requisite to voting. The amendments were ratified by a majority of 41,172.

—The official returns of Dakota Territory give Raymond, Republican, for Delegate in Congress a majority of 30,228 out of a total vote of 47,373.

—The official vote of Iowa gives Hall, Republican, for Secretary of State, 36,871 plurality over Walker, Democrat, and a majority over Walker and Gaston, Greenbacker,

—The St. Petersburg Nervee Vremya says the Prefect has ordered the police to expel all Jews residing within the municipal boundaries of St. Petersburg without official permission. The Golos says the Senate has decided that Jews are incapable of holding landed property in Russia.

—Among the announced deaths of prominent persons are the following: General Sidney Burbank, U. S. A. (retired), at Newport, Ky., on the 7th inst., aged 74; at Paris, on the 10th, Charles Alexander Lachaud ("Maitre Lachaud"), a distinguished advocate; in Italy, on the 12th, the Duke of Sermoneta, an eminent scholar and student of Dante, aged 79; Robert L, Stuart, a wealthy and well-known sugar refiner, at New York, on the 13th, aged 76.

-A flood in the Seine, at Paris, at the close of last week, did extensive damage.

—A great fire—the worst for many years—took place in London on the 7th and 8th instant. The property destroyed, including the silk warehouse of Foster, Porter & Co., was valued at £3,000,000.

—Sir Evelyn Wood leaves London to-day for Egypt, to take command of the Khedive's new army. Arabi Pasha is to be exiled to Ceylon, and expresses himself

—The business section of Kingston, Jamaica, was destroyed by fire on Monday. The loss is estimated at \$30,000,000, and hundreds of people are homeless and desti-

—The total arrivals at the port of Victoria, British Columbia, since January 10th, have been 22,000, of whom 7,500 were Chinese. A large Chinese immigration is expected next spring.

—The State of Texas has over \$1,000,000 in the Treasury, drawing no interest. The public debt is about \$5,000,000, chiefly in bonds which are not redeemable, except at the option of the holder, until maturity. Governor Roberts went upon the market a few months ago and tried to buy up some of them, but was asked 140, and only found a few even at that figure.

DRIFT.

—In India last year, snakes killed no fewer than 18,670 human beings, while wild beasts destroyed 2,759 more. Further, 43,609 head of cattle were killed by the same agents.

—The Washington correspondent of the New York World writes: "On the list of claims pending before Congress at the present session is the celebrated Meade claim, brought by Miss Margaret Meade, sister of General George Meade, as administrator of her father, Mr. Richard W. Meade. The claim aggregates in round numbers \$375,000 with interest from the 19th of May, 1820. This claim is without parallel in regard to its history as well as its justice. It has been pending since 1808 and has been before Congress since 1823, and has been reported favorably from three committees of the Senate and ten committees of the House, and a bill providing for its payment has twice -The Washington correspondent of the New York World writes: "On the list Senate and ten committees of the House, and a bill providing for its payment has twice passed the Senate and once passed the House, but never so as to become an act of the same Congress. It has received the indorsement of the second Adams, of Mr. Monroe, Mr. Clay, Mr. Everett and Mr. Buchanan. Miss Margaret Meade, who is one of the two survivors of the original heirs, has been in straightened circumstances for many years and has done writing for the Navy Department. She lives in modest rooms and leads the quietest and most regular life that can be imagined, but it is likely that the report presented by Mr. Crowley, of the Committee on Claims, at the last session, will get the bill through shortly, making her a rich woman. This is the history of the claim: In 1804 Mr. Richard Meade, a merchant of Philadelphia, father of General George Meade, took up his residence in Madrid. During the Peninsular wars he furnished the Spanish Government with large quantities of supplies, which, owing to the troubled condition of the country, were not paid for. He also suffered losses, indignities and imprisonment, for which he afterward sued the Spanish Government, and in 1816 he was awarded about \$375,000 worth of lands in Florida. Just at that time, however, the cession of Florida to the United States was contemplated, and Mr. Meade was warned by the United States Government that he would have to settle directly was warned by the United States Government that he would have to settle directly with the Spanish Government. It was then concluded between the two Governments that Spain was to award \$5,000,000 for the settlement of all claims against her by American citizens, and it was especially required and conceded that Mr. Meade's claim was to be paid in full. The United States accepted the obligation, the treaty was ratified, and the commission appointed to consider the claims against it. Mr. Meade presented his, but the commission required all the original vouchers, etc., from Spain, which only the United States Government could demand. Mr. Meade wrote for them and was promised them, but in the slow locomotion of those days the commission had and was promised them, but in the slow locomotion of those days the commission had expired before the original papers were produced. Ninety-two cents on the dollar were paid all authorized claims except the Meade claim, to which both Spain and the United States were pledged. Then came the weary task of prosecuting it before Congress. It was referred to the Court of Claims and decided adversely upon the ground of jurisdiction. It was carried to the Supreme Court and referred back to Congress by the same court. It has never been questioned as regards its equity, but as it was not a job, a scheme or ring, it could not get through. It will shortly be reached on the calendar, and it is probable that the urgent report issued by Mr. Crowley may induce the Covernment to do tardy justice at last. No compromise has ever been upoposed or Government to do tardy justice at last. No compromise has ever been proposed or even thought of, as the claim itself has never been questioned."

—Appropos of the discussion upon "American good nature"—that quality which Mr. Herbert Spencer found so very plentiful in this country, and which "put up" with things that ought to be growled at, in the English fashion, the Pall Mall Gasette is led into this train of comment: "There are two rival principles which commend themselves to different temperaments. Their operation may be seen, to take a simple case, in a difference between travellers. If Brown, Jones, and Robinson take a walking tour, the party will probably include a representative of each class. When any little want suggests itself, Brown will search about for means of supplying it; Jones will take the opposite course of learning to do without; while we may suppose that Robinson will adopt a compromise. When they have had a certain amount of experience, Brown and Jones will have become adepts in their respective methods. Brown will have become a perfect walking arsenal of ingenious contrivances. You tear your coat, he at once produces a neat little case of needles and thread; you slip on a smooth piece of turf, he has a set of nails in his pocket to be screwed into your boots; you are hungry and thirsty, he has a flask with a convenient drinking cup; he can set up a miniature cooking apparatus; he has a little packet of portable soup, and can turn out an omelet at an Alpine chalet which would pass muster in a London club; you are benighted, he can rig up a tent, has a sleeping-bag slung at his back, a lamp with a candle-end, and an alarum which will wake you at the right moment; you lose your way, he has maps, a compass, a telescope, and some sort of pocket instrument for observations; in a lonely bivouac he has a set of fire-works to make signals, two or three pocket volumes to pass the time, and half a dozen conjuring tricks to amuse the natives. pocket volumes to pass the time, and half a dozen conjuring tricks to amuse the natives.

Whatever happens, he is never at loss for a new device, and every device is an enter-Whatever happens, he is never at loss for a new device, and every device is an entertaining toy. He despises the ascetic Jones, who goes upon the opposite principle; but Jones has something to say for his own method, and can justify the contempt for his neighbor. All these clever devices, he says, fail to meet every case; and the cases which they fail to meet are always those which happen; somehow they have an astonishing tendency to get out of order and become a burden too heavy to bear. He, for his part, has studied the great science of doing without; he can travel for six weeks with nothing but a tooth-brush in one pocket and a clasp-knife in the other. He prefers taking a crust of bread to getting a good meal at the cost of carrying a cooking apparatus; he would rather pass a cold night in the open air once in the summer than lug about a tent for hundreds of miles; his toilet has to be simple, his clothes become ragged and even his washing must be irregular; but it is a great fact, denied by the prudish but recognized by the sincere, that there is nothing to which the human frame prudish but recognized by the sincere, that there is nothing to which the human frame becomes more easily reconciled than dirt. Amusement is all very well; but a man is best armed against dulness who can learn to amuse himself by lying on his back and whittling a stick, not he who is not content without a portable Shakespeare and a miniature library. If you must have a book or a clean shirt, buy those articles at the last shop or railway stall and present them to the boots at the next inn."

COMMUNICATION. THE LATE ENGLISH PRIMATE.

To the Editor of THE AMERICAN:

I FIND the following in your last issue, in reference the late Archbishop Tait: "As Primate, he had no marked success, and he will be remembered for one great failure,—The Public Worship Regulation Act." Permit me to say that I, on the contrary, think that he had very marked success and steered the Church of England with extraordinary wisdom and skill through a period when the conflict of church parties rendered his task one of most exceptional difficulty, and I am persuaded that tens of thousands, both of English churchmen and non-conformists, are of the same opinion.

New York, December 11.

AN OXFORD GRADUATE.

FINANCIAL AND TRADE REVIEW.

THURSDAY, December 14.

THERE has been an improvement in the stock market, within a day or two, the reported adjustment of the Western railroad war having had a favorable effect upon speculative quotations. Other than this, there has been little change in the business situation, in any particular. The manufacturing interests are watching closely the course of Congress on the Tariff revision, and some of the Bessemer steel works, in the interior and West, are inclined to cease production until they can judge what their future business situation will be. There is no change in the course of foreign trade. The sales of Russia wheat are reported very dull, and the shipments from Odessa stagnated, this being in part due to an order of the Government laying a duty on the return of empty grain bags.

The following were the closing quotations (sales) of principal stocks in the Philadelphia market, yesterday: Buffalo, Pittsburg & Western, 18; Lehigh Valley, 64¾; Northern Central Railroad, 57%; Northern Pacific, 44½; Ditto, preferred, 84¾; Pennsylvania Railroad, 60; Reading Railroad, 263/6; Philadelphia and Erie, 201/2; Lehigh Navigation, 381/4; United Companies of New Jersey, 1871/4.

The closing quotations of leading stocks in the New York market, yesterday, were as follows: New York Central, 13234; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, 12834; New York, Lake Erie and Western, 37 1/2; Missouri, Kansas and Texas, 34 1/4; New Jersey Central, 72; Chicago and Northwestern, 139; Lake Shore, 11736; St. Paul, 1081/4; Delaware and Hudson, 1091/4; Western Union, 83; Wabash, preferred, 54%; Louisville and Nashville, 5234; Denver and Rio Grande, 4514.

The following were the closing quotations of United States securities in New York

			Bid.	Asked.
United States 5s, 1881, continued at 31/4			1031/4	1033%
United States 41/2s, 1891, coupon, .			1133%	11356
United States 41/4s, 1891, registered, .			11336	11356
United States 4s, 1907, coupon,			12034	121
United States 4s, 1907, registered .			11934	120
United States 3's, registered,		de	1033%	1031/2
United States currency 6s, 1895,			128	0,-
United States currency 6s, 1896,			129	
United States currency 6s, 1897,			130	
United States currency 6s, 1898,			132	
United States currency 6s, 1899, .			133	

The banks of New York city, in their statement on the 9th inst., showed a large gain (\$3,623,175) in surplus reserve, so that they then held \$5,103,250 in excess of the legal requirement. The principal items of the statement were as follows:

		Dec. 2.	Dec.g.		Differences.
Loans, .		\$305,473,500	\$304,204,400	Dec.	\$1,269,100
Specie, .		52,179,800	36,319,600	Inc.	4,139,800
Legal tenders,		19,109,000	19,414,600	Inc.	305,600
Deposits, .		279,234,900	282,523,800	Inc.	3,288,900
Circulation,		18,557,600	18, 383, 100	Dec.	174.500

The Philadelphia banks showed, on the same date, a small decrease in reserve. The principal items in their statement were as follows:

	Dec. 2.	Dec. 9.		Differences.
Loans,	\$74,070,693	\$73,577,152	Dec.	\$493,541
Reserve,	. 16,266,082	16,243,089	Dec.	22,993
National Bank Notes	. 725,846	715,933	Dec.	9,913
Due from Banks, .	. 6,137,786	5,378,787	Dec.	758,999
Due to Banks,	. 11,767,104	11,095,575	Dec.	671,529
Deposits,	. 52,854,507	51,980,576	Dec.	873,931
Circulation,	. 9,722,530	9,738,491	Inc.	15,961
Clearings,	. 54,353,184	55,992,670	Inc.	1,639,486

The reports of specie at New York last week, amounted to \$363,433. The outgo was \$215,112, in silver, and \$500 in gold. A large part of the silver was in Ameri-

The Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad was sold under foreclosure proceedings last Saturday, at Chillicothe, Ohió. It was bought by a committee representing a reorganization party formed by the bondholders for \$4,375,000, one hundred thousand dollars cash being paid at the sale. With its branches the road comprises about 255 miles, and it was appraised at \$6,554,825.

The Philadelphia Ledger, in its issue of to-day, says: The local money market continues substantially unchanged, call loans being quoted at 5@6 per cent and good commercial paper at about 6 per cent. In New York good commercial paper is quoted at 7@8 per cent. Yesterday in New York call money opened at 5 per cent., loaned as high as 6 per cent. and as low as 2 per cent., and closed at 3 per cent.

The returns issued by the British Board of Trade for last month show that the imports of the United Kingdom increased £632,000 as compared with November last year, while the exports decreased £420,000 during the same period.

The new Farmers' National Bank of Chester county has just been organized at West Chester (Penna.), with ex-State Treasurer Samuel Butler as president.

The State debt of Pennsylvania was reduced \$915,104 during the fiscal year ended November 30, and its total on that date was \$20,225,083.

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